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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS  
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA.

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# LABOUR REPORT, 1938.

No. 29.

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Prepared under Instructions from  
THE HONORABLE THE TREASURER,

by

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Commonwealth Statistician.

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MARCH, 1940.

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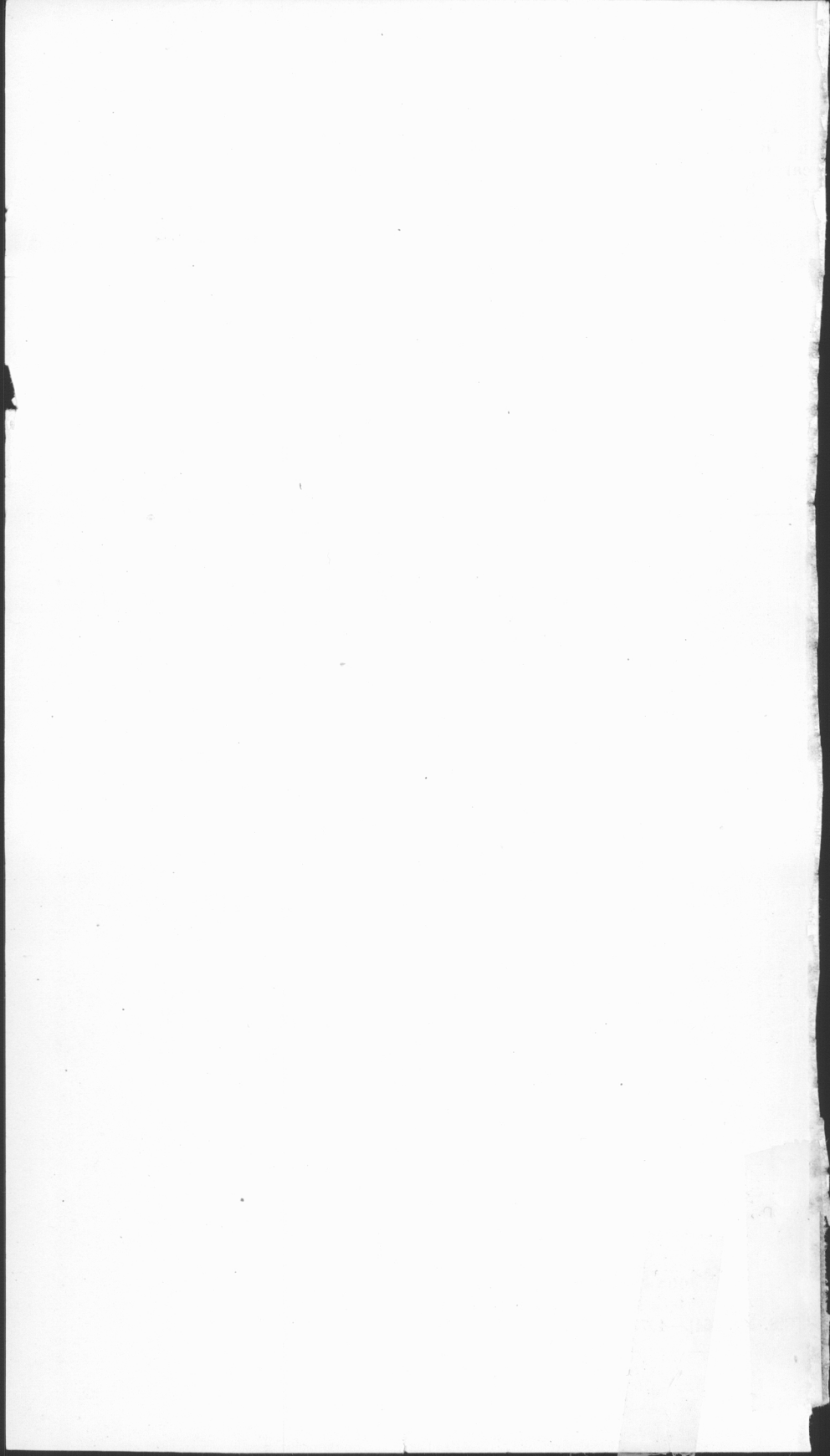
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## PREFACE.

The first Labour Report issued by this Bureau was published in 1912. This Report is the twenty-ninth of the series and deals chiefly with the year 1938. The tabulations, however, include particulars relating to the first half of 1939 as well as for earlier years, in most cases back to 1934.

The synopsis immediately following shows the general arrangement of the work, while an index has been inserted at the end of the volume to facilitate reference.

The subject-matter in the Report has been divided into five Chapters, covering information in regard to Retail Prices and Price Indexes; Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes; Wages; Employment (Employment, Unemployment and Industrial Disputes); and Associations (Trade Unions and Employers' Associations). The Report follows the lines of its immediate predecessors in scope and arrangement.

For the purpose of tabulating the results of the investigations which have been made in regard to rates of wage, labour organizations, employers' associations, unemployment, industrial disputes, &c., the following classification of trades and occupations has been adopted:—

### Classification of Industries and Occupations.

I.	Wood, Furniture, Sawmill, Timber-works, &c.	VIII.	Mining, Quarries, &c.
II.	Engineering, Metal Works, &c.	IX.	Railway and Tramway Services.
III.	Food, Drink, and Tobacco—Manufacture and Distribution.	X.	Other Land Transport.
IV.	Clothing, Textiles, &c.	XI.	Shipping, Wharf Labour, &c.
V.	Books, Printing, Bookbinding, &c.	XII.	Pastoral, Agricultural, Rural, Horticultural, &c.
VI.	Other Manufacturing.	XIII.	Domestic, Hotels, &c.
VII.	Building.	XIV.	Miscellaneous.

It is gratifying to record that secretaries of trade unions and of employers' associations, officials of Commonwealth and State Departments, private employers, retail dealers, house agents, and others have readily responded to the somewhat heavy demands made upon them.

Without the help so rendered, the investigations contained herein would have been impossible, and I take this opportunity of expressing my cordial thanks to all who have thus assisted.

The valuable assistance rendered to the Bureau by the Statistical Offices in the various States, especially in regard to the collection of retail prices, is acknowledged, and to the officers concerned I desire to express my sincere thanks.

I am specially indebted to Mr. S. H. Begley, the officer in charge of Labour Statistics in this Bureau, for the care and attention which he has bestowed on the compilation of this Report and for seeing the matter through the press. My thanks are also due to the staff under his control for their cordial co-operation and valuable services.

ROLAND WILSON,  
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Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,  
*Canberra, A.C.T., March, 1940.*

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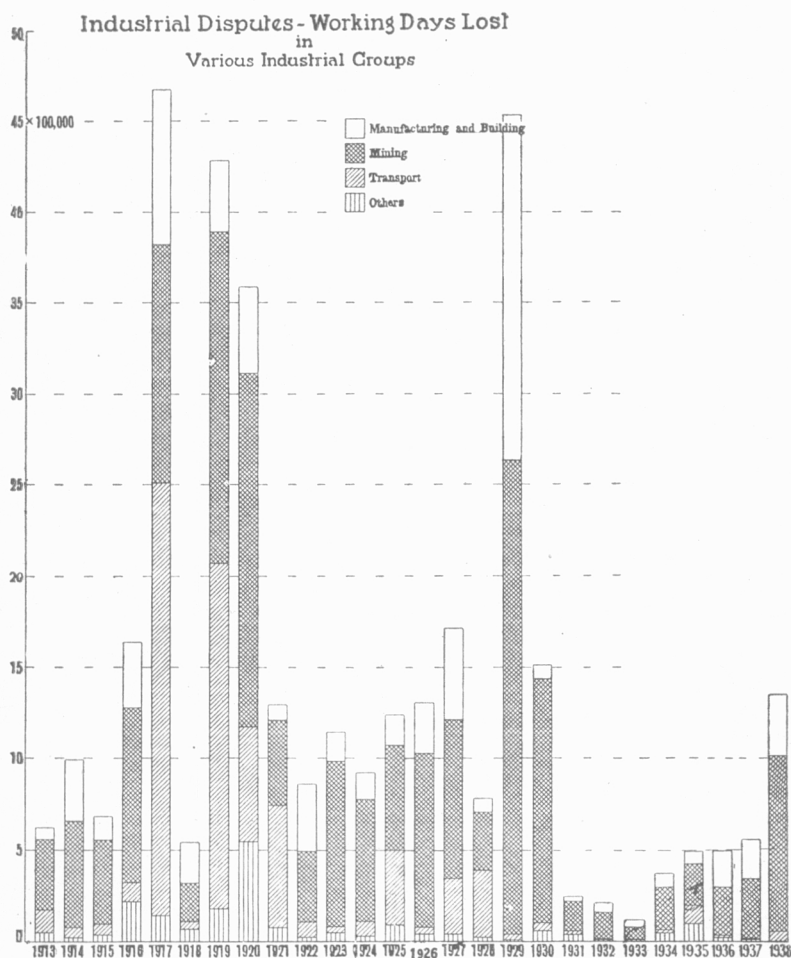
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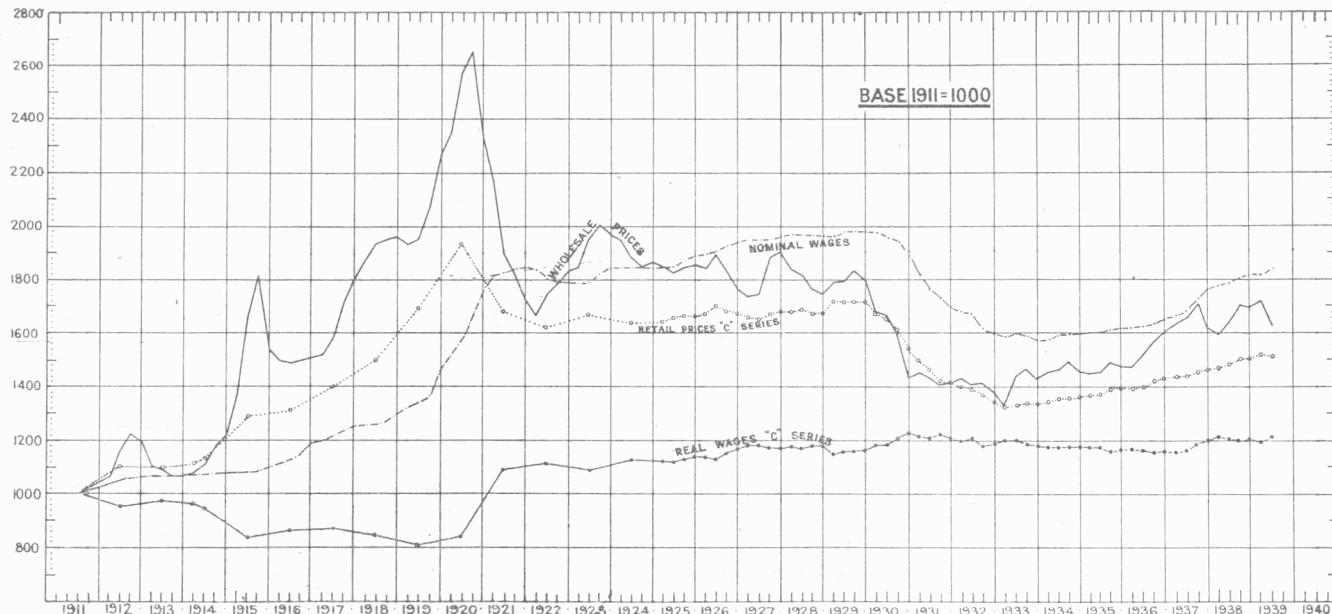
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EXPLANATION.—The scale refers to working days lost in hundred thousands. Thus, taking the year 1917, and comparing the shaded and blank sections with the scale, it will be observed that about 870,000 working days were lost in Manufacturing and Building, over 1,300,000 in Mining, over 2,300,000 in Transport, and about 150,000 in other industries.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL PRICES, NOMINAL AND EFFECTIVE OR REAL WAGE INDEX-NUMBERS.—AUSTRALIA, 1911 TO 1939.



EXPLANATION.—The index-numbers in the above graph are for the Six Capital Cities as a whole, with the exception of those for Wholesale Prices which are for Melbourne. They are all calculated to the common base 1911 = 1,000, the scale for which appears on the left of the graph. They are shown *quarterly* from the year 1912 in the case of the Wholesale Prices (Melbourne). The "C" Series Retail Prices (food, groceries, rent of 4 and 5 rooms, clothing and miscellaneous household expenditure) are shown *quarterly* from the year 1925. Nominal Wages are shown *quarterly* from 1914, and Real Wages *quarterly* from 1925 for the "C" Series.

## CHAPTER I.—RETAIL PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

### § 1.—Collection of Returns of Retail Prices and Rents.

One of the most important functions of the Labour Section of the Bureau is the regular collection and tabulation of returns of retail prices and house rentals.

The retail prices of an extensive range of articles and services in common demand are collected at frequent intervals from representative retail establishments in the more important towns throughout the Commonwealth. The prices of a less extensive range of commodities are also collected at annual intervals from most towns of any significant size, the total number of towns so covered reaching approximately 200.

Definite standards of quality have been established for each article in order to ensure that, as far as care and effort can make it possible, prices for articles of identical grade or quality will be recorded at all times and for all places. These standards, which are incorporated in printed "specifications", are closely watched and revised from time to time to keep them in harmony with changing trade practices and conditions.

The actual collection of the data is carried out, under the direct supervision of the State Statisticians, by specially qualified officers of the Bureau, while a supervising field officer is provided to assist in the co-ordination of activities in the several States. The prices of foods are obtained, where practicable, from about ten retailers in each of the capital cities, and from about five retailers in the provincial towns. Tradespeople and agents are carefully selected in order to ensure the supply of representative figures for the whole of each town, and returns are carefully verified if there should be any doubt as to the accuracy of the information supplied. The movement in wholesale prices of commodities is used as a check when the indicated movement of retail prices appears to be abnormal.

Returns of rents are made at the middle of each quarter by a representative number of house-agents in each town, for brick and wooden houses respectively, classified according to the number of rooms. The returns from the larger cities and towns show the rents of individual houses, all of which are inspected by the Bureau's field officers. The returns from the smaller provincial towns are in the form of averages supplied by house-agents. As opportunity permits the system of listing and inspecting individual houses in provincial towns is being extended.

### § 2. Compilation of Indexes of Retail Prices and Rents.

1. **General.**—The methods adopted for the compilation of indexes of retail prices and rents are briefly described in the following pages. For a more detailed explanation, and an analysis of the problems involved, the reader should refer to the Appendix to Labour Report No. 9.



2. The "Regimen".—The "regimen" from which the retail price indexes are compiled consists of a list of those commodities and services which most commonly enter into the consumption of the average household. The regimen is divided into the following distinct Groups and Sections:—

Group.	Section.
I. Food and Groceries ..	{ A.—Groceries. B.—Dairy Produce. C.—Meat.
II. Housing ..	D.—House Rent.
III. Clothing ..	{ E.—Clothing—Man. F.—Clothing—Woman. G.—Clothing—Boy (10½ years). H.—Clothing—Girl (7 years). J.—Clothing—Boy (3½ years).
IV. Miscellaneous ..	{ K.—Household Drapery. L.—Household Utensils. M.—Fuel and Light. N.—Other Miscellaneous.

An index (the "All Items" or "C" series) is compiled for the whole of the above Groups, but for many purposes indexes are required for each Group or Section separately. For this reason the following indexes are regularly compiled at the intervals shown, and published in this Report and other publications issued by the Bureau:—

Groups.	Content.	Frequency.
I.	Food and Groceries .. .. .	Monthly
II.	Housing (4 and 5 rooms) .. .. .	Quarterly
I. and II.	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5 rooms) ("B" Series) .. .. .	Quarterly
III.	Clothing .. .. .	Quarterly
IV.	Miscellaneous Household Requirements ..	Quarterly
I., II., III. and IV.	Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5 rooms), Clothing and Miscellaneous ("C" series) ..	Quarterly
I.	Food and Groceries ("200 Towns" series) ..	Yearly

For convenience of reference several of the indexes mentioned above have been given the "series" designation shown against them. These indexes are dealt with in turn in the following pages.

The articles and services included in the various regimens now used for the purposes of the indexes referred to are shown in the following table:—

**Retail Price Indexes—Regimen.**  
**GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.**

No.	Item.	Unit.	Mass Unit (per capita).	Cost of Items in Regimen as percentage of aggregate cost— Melbourne, Dec. Quarter, 1938. (a)
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**SECTION A.—GROCERIES.**

1	Bread, white flour (cash delivered) ..	2-lb. loaf ..	100	5.7
2	Flour, ordinary .. ..	2 lb. ..	25	1.0
3	Flour, self-raising .. ..	2-lb. pkt. ..	12	1.0
4	Tea .. ..	1-lb. pkt. ..	8	2.5
5	Sugar, white granulated, 1A ..	1 lb. ..	100	4.6
6	Rice, polished (Australian) ..	1 lb. ..	8	0.3
7	Sago, seed tapioca .. ..	1 lb. ..	1	0.1
8	Jam, plum .. ..	1½-lb. tin ..	8	0.7
9	Golden Syrup .. ..	2-lb. tin ..	1	0.1
10	Oats, flaked, loose .. ..	1 lb. ..	8	0.3
11	Raisins, seeded .. ..	1-lb. pkt. ..	5	0.6
12	Currants, loose, 2-Crown ..	1 lb. ..	2	0.2
13	Apricots, dried, loose, 2-Crown ..	1 lb. ..	1	0.2
14	Peaches, canned .. ..	30-oz. tin ..	3	0.3
15	Pears, canned .. ..	30-oz. tin ..	1	0.1
16	Salmon, in tins .. ..	1-lb. tin ..	3	0.4
17	Potatoes, new and old .. ..	7 lb. ..	18	2.9
18	Onions, brown .. ..	1 lb. ..	14	0.3
19	Soap .. ..	1 lb. ..	16	1.3
20	Kerosene, lighting, bulk ..	quart ..	4	0.2

**SECTION B.—DAIRY PRODUCE.**

21	Butter, factory "choicest" ..	1 lb. ..	30	6.8
22	Cheese, ordinary, mild .. ..	1 lb. ..	4	0.6
23	Eggs, standard, new laid ..	1 doz. ..	6	1.2
24	Bacon, rashers, best middle ..	1 lb. ..	12	2.7
25	Milk, condensed, sweetened ..	1 tin ..	5	0.5
26	Milk, fresh—in sealed bottles or not bottled .. ..	quart ..	72	5.8

**SECTION C.—MEAT.**

	Beef (fresh)—			
27	Sirloin (Roast) .. ..	1 lb. ..	18	2.3
28	Rib (Roast) including bone ..	1 lb. ..	22	2.3
29	Steak—Rump .. ..	1 lb. ..	11	2.0
30	Steak—Chuck (stewing) ..	1 lb. ..	20	1.7
31	Sausages .. ..	1 lb. ..	7	0.5
	Beef (corned)—			
32	Silverside, average quality ..	1 lb. ..	14	1.5
33	Brisket, rolled .. ..	1 lb. ..	15	1.2
	Mutton (fresh)—			
34	Leg .. ..	1 lb. ..	20	1.8
35	Forequarter .. ..	1 lb. ..	15	0.8
36	Loin .. ..	1 lb. ..	4	0.3
37	Chops—Loin .. ..	1 lb. ..	30	3.0
38	Chops—Leg .. ..	1 lb. ..	10	1.0
	Pork (fresh)—			
39	Leg .. ..	1 lb. ..	3	0.4
40	Loin .. ..	1 lb. ..	3	0.4
41	Chops .. ..	1 lb. ..	3	0.4

**GROUP II.—HOUSING.—SECTION D.—RENT.**

42	House Accommodation(b) ..	week ..	52(c)	40.0
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(a) "B" Series.

(b) Four and five roomed houses.

(c) Per household.

## Retail Price Indexes—Regimen—continued.

## GROUP III.—CLOTHING.\*

No.	Item.	Mass Unit (per capita).	No.	Item.	Mass Unit (per capita).
SECTION E.—CLOTHING—MAN.			SECTION G.—CLOTHING—BOY (10½ YEARS)—contd.		
1	Suit, ready-made, Worsted (Australian)	0.67	46	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
2	Trousers, working, Cotton Tweed (Australian)	2.00	47	Cap, Skull, Cloth .. ..	1.50
3	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.25	48	.. ..	..
4	Hat, Fur Felt (Australian) ..	1.00	49	Shirt, Sports .. ..	5.00
5	Shirt, Fashion, with two collars ..	1.67	50	Singlet, Wool and Cotton (short sleeves)	1.00
6	Shirt, working—Drill .. ..	4.00	51	Singlet, Cotton (athletic) ..	1.00
7	Collar, semi-soft, white .. ..	6.00	52	Braces .. ..	1.00
8	Singlet, Wool and Cotton (short sleeves)	1.00	53	Stockings, Golf, All Wool ..	4.00
9	Singlet, Cotton (athletic) ..	1.00	54	Pyjamas, Winceyette .. ..	1.50
10	Underpants, Wool and Cotton (full length)	1.00	55	Pullover, All Wool .. ..	0.50
11	Underpants, Cotton "Shorts" (plain)	1.00	56	Shoes (for best wear), Box Yearling	1.00
12	Sox, All Wool (fancy) .. ..	2.00	57	Boots (school), Box Yearling ..	2.00
13	Sox, Wool and Cotton (fancy) ..	4.00			
14	Braces .. ..	1.33	SECTION H.—CLOTHING—GIRL (7 YEARS).		
15	Handkerchief, Cotton .. ..	6.00	58	Dress, Wool-de-chine .. ..	1.00
16	Pyjamas, Winceyette .. ..	1.50	59	.. ..	..
17	Pullover, All Wool .. ..	1.00	60	Dress, Cotton .. ..	3.00
18	Shoes (for best wear), Box Calf ..	0.50	61	Top Coat, Tweed (Australian) ..	0.33
19	Boots, working, Box Hide .. ..	1.50	62	Hat, Wool Felt (Australian) ..	1.00
			63	Hat, Straw .. ..	2.00
			64	.. ..	..
SECTION F.—CLOTHING—WOMAN.			65	Petticoat, Art Silk .. ..	1.00
20	Costume, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.50	66	Singlet, Silk and Wool .. ..	0.50
21	Skirt, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	1.25	67	Singlet, Art Silk .. ..	0.50
22	.. ..	..	68	Bloomers, Cotton, fleecy-lined ..	2.00
23	Hat, Fur Felt (Australian) ..	0.75	69	Bloomers, Art Silk .. ..	2.00
24	Hat, Straw .. ..	1.50	70	Stockings, Cashmere .. ..	4.00
25	Frock, ready-made, Cotton ..	1.50	71	Pyjamas, Winceyette .. ..	0.33
26	Frock, ready-made, Art Silk ..	1.50	72	Pyjamas, Art Silk .. ..	0.33
27	Brassiere, Cotton Brocade ..	4.50	73	Pullover, All Wool .. ..	0.50
28	Undervest, Wool and Art Silk ..	1.50	74	Shoes (for best wear), Patent Leather	0.67
29	Undervest, Art Silk .. ..	1.50	75	Shoes (school), Box Yearling ..	1.50
30	.. ..	..			
31	Bloomers, Art Silk .. ..	4.50	SECTION J.—CLOTHING—BOY (3½ YEARS).		
32	Princess Slip, Art Silk .. ..	1.00	76	Blouse Coat .. ..	3.00
33	Stockings, Silk .. ..	6.00	77	Pants, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	3.00
34	Stockings, Lisle .. ..	3.00	78	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
35	Gloves, Fabric .. ..	2.25	79	Hat, Cloth .. ..	1.33
36	Gloves, Nappa .. ..	0.75	80	Singlet, Wool and Cotton ..	1.00
37	Nightdress, Art Silk .. ..	1.50	81	Singlet, Cotton (athletic) ..	1.00
38	Pyjamas, Winceyette .. ..	1.50	82	Sox, Art Silk and Lisle .. ..	4.00
39	Dressing Gown, Art Silk ..	0.50	83	Pyjamas, Winceyette .. ..	2.00
40	Apron, Cotton .. ..	6.00	84	Pullover, All Wool .. ..	0.50
41	Cardigan, All Wool .. ..	0.50	85	Shoes (for best wear), Patent Leather	1.00
42	Shoes (for best wear), Glace Kid ..	1.50	86	Shoes (for ordinary wear), Tan Yearling	2.00
43	Shoes (for ordinary wear), Box Calf	1.50			
SECTION G.—CLOTHING—BOY (10½ YEARS).					
44	Suit, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	1.00			
45	Pants, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	3.00			

\* The total cost of each section is multiplied by a section "weight" representing the proportion of the population covered by the section.

## Retail Price Indexes—Regimen—continued.

## GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Item.	Mass Unit (per household).	No.	Item.	Mass Unit (per household).
SECTION K.—HOUSEHOLD DRAPERY.			SECTION L.—HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS—continued.		
1	Blankets, D.B. (pair) ..	0.07	26	Knife, Table (stainless) ..	0.10
2	Blankets, S.B. (pair) ..	0.14	27	Spoon, Tea (stainless) ..	0.08
3	Quilt, D.B. Marcella ..	0.25	28	Spoon, Dessert (stainless) ..	0.08
4	.. ..	..	29	Fork, Table (stainless) ..	0.10
5	Sheets, D.B. (pair) ..	0.50	30	Globe, Electric Light (gas-filled) ..	2.00
6	Sheets, S.B. (pair) ..	1.00	31	Iron, Electric (full size) ..	0.10
7	Pillow Slip, Cotton ..	5.00	SECTION M.—FUEL AND LIGHT.		
8	Towel ..	3.00	32	Firewood (blocks) (cwt.) (a) ..	40
9	Table Cloth ..	0.20	33	Gas, cooking (units) (a) ..	1,518
10	Tea Towel (yard) ..	4.00	34	Electric lighting (units) ..	130
SECTION L.—HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS.			35	Electric power (units) (a) ..	130
11	Cup and Saucer (Stone China) ..	2.00	No.		Amount per week (per household).
12	Plate, Dinner (Stone China) ..	2.00	SECTION N.—OTHER MISCELLANEOUS.		
13	Jug, Quart (Brownware) ..	1.00	36	Union Dues ..	d.
14	Teapot, Brownware (2-pint) ..	0.25	37	Lodge Dues ..	(b)
15	Basin, Pudding (Enamel), 6-inch	1.00	38	Medicine ..	24
16	Tumbler (9-oz.) ..	1.00	39	Newspapers ..	(b)
17	Kettle, Enamel (6-pint) ..	0.20	40	Recreation ..	24
18	Kettle, Aluminium (6-pint) ..	0.20	41	Smoking ..	(b)
19	Saucepan, Aluminium (3-pint) ..	0.40	42	Fares ..	(b)
20	Bucket, Galvanized (12-inch) ..	0.20	43	School requisites ..	3
21	Dipper, Galvanized (2-quart) ..	0.20			
22	Broom, Millet ..	0.50			
23	Broom, Hair, complete (11-inch)	0.33			
24	Brush, Scrubbing (10-inch) ..	1.50			
25	Mop, Polishing, complete ..	0.20			

(a) Standard mass-units. In certain provincial towns where gas and/or electricity are not used the mass-units differ from the standard.

(b) A definite basic amount per week is provided for each of these items, and varied in accordance with Resolution 20 of the Conference of Statisticians, 1935.

3. **The Mass Units.**—The “mass units” or “multipliers” represent the estimated annual consumption per head or per household as the case may be in Australia of the units of quantity shown. Thus the *per capita* consumption of bread in Australia is estimated to be 100 2-lb. loaves and of sugar 100 lb., and the consumption of towels per household is estimated to be three. In the case of Food and Groceries (Group I.) the “mass units” adopted are, approximately, the annual average consumption per head for household purposes of the various articles during the years 1927 to 1929. In the case of Housing (Group II.), the “mass unit” is the multiplier applied to the weekly rental to raise it to an annual basis. In the case of Sections E to J, the “mass units” represent the estimated annual consumption per head of the articles mentioned. In the case of Sections K to M, the “mass units” represent the estimated consumption per household; while in Section N are shown the actual amounts provided to cover the estimated cost of the services included for an average household.

It will be noted that the “mass units” are all shown on the basis of consumption per head or per household. In the tabulation for index-number purposes, the figures are raised to a “total population” basis, by multiplying the aggregate cost of each Group or Section by the numbers of the population

properly applicable to it. Thus Group I. (Food and Groceries) is multiplied by the whole population; Group II. (Housing) by the total number of households; Sections E to J (Clothing) by the proportions of the population applicable to each; and Sections K to N (Miscellaneous) by the total number of households. The resultant index-numbers measure changes, therefore, in the cost to the whole population of the commodities and services included.

The five sections into which the clothing group is divided are somewhat arbitrary, but they are those adopted by the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage (see § 7, p. 31). The sections for men and women are now regarded as being applicable to persons aged seventeen years and upwards. The section for a boy aged ten and a half years is taken as representative of both sexes from ten to sixteen years; the section for a girl aged seven as representative of both sexes from five to nine years; and the section for the boy aged three and a half years is taken as representative of children aged four years and under.

In estimating the annual average consumption per head of food and groceries for household purposes, small adjustments in the crude average consumption were made in two ways. Consumption by factories, when the product did not go into household use in Australia, was deducted. On the other hand, the weights given to some foods, such as dried apricots and canned peaches, cover also the consumption of other similar foods. Foods of some importance, such as fresh fish, and fruit and vegetables other than potatoes and onions, are not included in the regimen, owing to the fact that comparable prices for a standard grade for these items cannot be obtained; a further difficulty arises from the seasonal character of their production and consumption. The inclusion of such items, therefore, would impair the accuracy and stability of the index, and even if accurate information could be obtained, the index would probably not be materially affected by their inclusion. In the original regimen certain omissions were made partly on account of the difficulty of securing comparable prices. Some of the joints of meat, for example, are not only insufficiently standardized, but anomalies in price are not uncommon. In making these omissions, however, the appropriate total weight for meat is distributed amongst the more standardized joints.

The estimated annual consumption per head of articles of clothing and miscellaneous household requirements is based largely on the results of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, which reported in 1920 and 1921. After exhaustive inquiries the Commission established what it considered a desirable "regimen" for an average working family of five persons, and set out the constituent items in its "Indicator List". This list, so far as it related to the articles in question, was followed substantially in the original compilation of the "All Items" index, but, as old articles were deleted and new ones substituted, appropriate modifications were introduced. In these revisions the principle has been followed of redistributing the mass-units in the manner most conformable to the original findings of the Commission.

The mass-units used for fuel and light are also based, indirectly, on the findings of the Commission. Until the September quarter of 1936 flat amounts were used for the miscellaneous items of Section N, their chief function—apart from a slight stabilizing influence on the index-numbers—being to vary in accordance with the Commission's findings the relative heights of the index-numbers for the several States. Since the date mentioned, provision has been made to vary the amounts set down for three of these items periodically, in accordance with ascertained changes.

4. **Relative Importance of the Items and Groups.**—The relative importance in the grand aggregate of any item of the regimen will, of course, change slightly with the variation of prices. In the last column of the regimen for Groups I. (Food and Groceries) and II. (Housing) shown on page 3, the approximate relative importance of the items in these two groups can be gauged from the figures shown for Melbourne for the December quarter of 1938. The relative importance of all the groups and sections in the "All Items" ("C" series) index for Melbourne for the same quarter was as follows:—

Group.	Section.	Percentage of Total Aggregate Cost.
I. Food and Groceries	{ A Groceries .. .. .	13.7
	{ B Dairy Produce .. .. .	10.5
	{ C Meat .. .. .	11.8
II. Housing .. .. .	{ D House Rent (4 and 5 rooms) .. .. .	24.0
	{ E Man .. .. .	8.0
	{ F Woman .. .. .	8.7
III. Clothing .. .. .	{ G Boy, 10½ years .. .. .	1.5
	{ H Girl, 7 years .. .. .	1.1
	{ J Boy, 3½ years .. .. .	0.6
	{ K Household Drapery .. .. .	1.2
IV. Miscellaneous .. .. .	{ L Household Utensils .. .. .	0.5
	{ M Fuel and Light .. .. .	5.3
	{ N Other Miscellaneous .. .. .	13.1
		100.0

5. **Base Periods of the Indexes.**—The base period originally adopted by the Bureau for its retail price indexes was the year 1911. When the collection of the prices of clothing and miscellaneous items was undertaken for the purposes of the "All Items" ("C" series) index, the month of November, 1914, was adopted as the base period for this series. The desirability of computing retail price indexes to a post-war base was considered by a Conference of Statisticians in 1929, and it was resolved that from 1st January, 1930, the five years 1923–27 should be adopted as the base period. Commencing with Labour Report No. 21 for 1930, therefore, the retail price indexes have been published on this base. The aggregate to which all index-numbers are related is the weighted aggregate cost of the regimen in the six capital cities during the period taken as base.

Index-numbers on the earlier bases mentioned will be found in previous issues of the Labour Report, as follows:—

(i) **1911 Base.**—Food and groceries; rent of all houses; and food, groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 1 to 15.\* Food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; and food, groceries and rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses ("B" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 16 to 20.

(ii) **1914 Base.**—Food and groceries; rent of all houses; clothing; miscellaneous; all items of household expenditure (subsequently retrospectively revised to include rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses only)—Labour Reports Nos. 12 to 16. Food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; clothing; miscellaneous; all items of household expenditure ("C" series)—Labour Reports Nos. 17 to 20.

\* These index-numbers appear in the Appendix to each Labour Report from Nos. 16 to 28 and also in the Quarterly Summaries of Australian Statistics up to No. 155, June, 1938.

The conversion of these index-numbers from one base to another may be readily effected by multiplying the index-number to be converted by the appropriate factor shown in the following table :—

Group.	1911 to 1914 (a).	1914 (a) to 1911.	1911 to 1923-27.	1923-27 to 1911.	1914 (a) to 1923-27.	1923-27 to 1914 (a).
Food and Groceries ..	0.87230	1.14639	0.55929	1.78800	0.64116	1.55970
Rent (4 and 5 Rooms) ..	0.94279	1.06068	0.61161	1.63500	0.64872	1.54150
Food, Groceries and Rent ("B" Series)	0.89750	1.11420	0.57785	1.73060	0.64384	1.55320
Clothing ..	..	..	..	..	0.75412	1.32610
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	0.74891	1.33530
All Items ("C" Series)	..	..	..	..	0.68715	1.45530

(a) November.

The results obtained by the above method will, of course, be only approximate, but the error will not be greater than one point in the unit figure.

**6. The Methods of Tabulation.**—The prices (converted to pence) received from each retailer for each item of the regimen are added together and divided by the number of individual prices. These averages are then multiplied by their respective "mass units". The sum of these products for each section or group of the regimen is then multiplied by the population factor applicable to such section or group. The aggregate so produced for any section, group or combination thereof for the period taken as the base of the indexes is regarded as equal to 1,000. The index-number for any other period is then calculated by applying to 1,000 the ratio which the aggregate for such period bears to the base aggregate. The various base periods adopted for retail price indexes from time to time are set out in paragraph 5 of this section.

**7. Relative Population Weights for Towns.**—Weighted averages for any combination of towns or States may be calculated approximately by multiplying the index-numbers\* of the towns or States to be included by their population weights, and dividing the sum of the products by the sum of the multipliers. The population weights used in the computations of these weighted averages for 1934 and succeeding years are as follows :—

**Relative Population Weights Used for Different Towns.**

New South Wales.		Victoria.		Queensland.		South Australia.		Western Australia.		Tasmania.	
Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.
Sydney ..	1235	Melbourne	992	Brisbane	300	Adelaide	313	Perth, etc.	208	Hobart	60
Newcastle	105	Ballarat ..	38	T'woomba	26	Kadina, etc.	11	Kalg'lie, etc.	17	Launceston	33
Broken Hill	27	Bendigo ..	29	Rockham'n	29	Pt. Pirie	12	Northam	5	Burnie ..	4
Goulburn	15	Geelong ..	39	†Townsville	26	Mt. Gamb'r	5	Bunbury	5	Devonport	5
Bathurst	10	W'nambool	9	†Bundaberg	11	Peterbor'gh	3	Geraldton	5	Queenst'wn	4
Total ..	1392	Total ..	1107	†Total ..	392	Total ..	344	Total ..	240	Total ..	106

† Townsville and Bundaberg were substituted for Charters Towers (7) and Warwick (7) in the "five towns" tabulation in the March Quarter of 1937.

\* The official index-numbers are calculated by operating on the "aggregates" of the towns concerned, a procedure which may produce slightly different results from the above.



The weights used are based on the 1933 Census results, and represent to the nearest 1,000 the actual populations at that date.

The new weights given above produce results which differ only very slightly from those obtained from the weights previously in use. The latter were based upon the 1921 Census results, and were last published in Labour Report, No. 23.

### § 3. The Food, Groceries and Rent ("B" Series) Index of Retail Prices.

1. **General.**—This index measures the prices of food and groceries and the rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses. It was first compiled in respect of the year 1925, and index-numbers were retrospectively computed for the several earlier years shown below. It was designed to replace the "A" series index (food, groceries and rent of all houses), which was the original index first compiled by the Bureau in 1912. Owing, however, to the continued use of the latter index by Industrial Tribunals for the purpose of adjusting wages to variations in retail prices, the "B" series index never replaced the "A" series in this connexion.

2. **Retail Price Index-Numbers: Capital Cities, 1907 to 1938.**—Index numbers computed separately for each section of the regimen, and the weighted average for all sections together, for the capital city of each State are shown in the next table.

#### Retail Price Index-Numbers: Capital Cities. ("B" Series.)

The index-numbers given in the separate sections of the table cannot be compared with each other in order to show the relative cost of housing and food and groceries, since each section or combination has its own base, viz., the weighted average cost for the six capital cities taken together during the five-yearly period 1923-1927 for that section or combination.

(Base of each Section: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

TOWN.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
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#### SECTION A.—GROCERIES.

Sydney .. ..	510	574	627	1,115	851	875	859	872	887
Melbourne .. ..	461	521	562	1,070	758	824	829	829	835
Brisbane .. ..	547	614	607	1,105	806	846	868	869	871
Adelaide .. ..	510	541	598	1,076	782	804	814	838	831
Perth .. ..	572	720	628	1,103	846	852	864	906	897
Hobart .. ..	501	566	604	1,087	810	812	840	871	874
Weighted Average (a) ..	499	564	599	1,093	809	846	846	857	864

#### SECTION B.—DAIRY PRODUCE.

Sydney .. ..	551	574	656	1,080	780	788	791	817	850
Melbourne .. ..	571	567	635	1,087	718	750	773	813	861
Brisbane .. ..	495	581	588	983	683	691	709	768	791
Adelaide .. ..	548	651	705	1,018	690	715	728	774	802
Perth .. ..	709	733	735	1,152	765	801	816	830	864
Hobart .. ..	564	587	695	1,091	665	701	702	765	802
Weighted Average (a) ..	563	591	654	1,072	739	758	771	807	843

(a) For Six Capital Cities.



## Retail Price Index-Numbers: Capital Cities—"B" Series—continued.

TOWN.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
SECTION C.—MEAT.									
Sydney .. ..	519	501	668	960	821	835	881	906	960
Melbourne .. ..	557	485	663	1,030	758	755	809	857	960
Brisbane .. ..	535	488	610	897	647	719	764	825	834
Adelaide .. ..	553	541	784	1,095	832	804	839	851	950
Perth .. ..	789	824	881	1,103	798	788	867	887	926
Hobart .. ..	668	638	780	1,244	861	849	928	964	957
Weighted Average (a) ..	558	522	691	1,010	784	792	842	877	948

## SECTIONS A, B AND C COMBINED.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.

Sydney .. ..	523	553	646	1,062	825	840	848	868	904
Melbourne .. ..	517	523	610	1,063	748	784	809	836	884
Brisbane .. ..	530	509	603	1,014	727	763	791	828	838
Adelaide .. ..	532	570	679	1,066	767	780	798	826	861
Perth .. ..	670	753	728	1,116	807	821	853	881	899
Hobart .. ..	565	592	678	1,133	786	792	827	870	880
Weighted Average (a) ..	533	559	640	1,064	783	806	825	851	886

## SECTION D.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).

Sydney .. ..	593	701	760	989	869	891	930	965	1,004
Melbourne .. ..	455	569	628	820	808	850	882	909	935
Brisbane .. ..	283	373	466	630	691	720	766	822	841
Adelaide .. ..	510	706	655	809	700	736	795	832	868
Perth .. ..	458	524	589	739	794	792	844	861	872
Hobart .. ..	405	452	518	881	865	890	908	899	913
Weighted Average (a) ..	497	612	662	862	810	839	879	912	942

## ALL SECTIONS COMBINED.—FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.

Sydney .. ..	548	606	687	1,036	840	858	878	904	941
Melbourne .. ..	495	539	616	977	769	808	835	862	902
Brisbane .. ..	442	500	554	877	713	747	781	824	838
Adelaide .. ..	524	618	671	975	742	764	796	826	862
Perth .. ..	594	672	679	982	802	810	849	871	887
Hobart .. ..	508	542	621	1,044	814	827	856	879	891
Weighted Average (a) ..	520	578	648	992	792	818	844	872	906

(a) For Six Capital Cities.

3. **Retail Price Index-Numbers: Thirty Towns, 1934 to 1939.**—The following tables give index-numbers representing the variations in the prices of food and groceries (41 commodities) in 30 of the more important towns at yearly, quarterly and monthly intervals. In addition, index-numbers are given showing for the years specified the quarterly and yearly variations in house rents (4 and 5-rooms) and in the combined prices of food, groceries and housing.

## Retail Price Index-Numbers ("B" Series).

(Base of each Section (a) : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
1934 ..	825	834	917	815	802	827	748	774	783	760	783	751
1935 ..	840	860	935	822	824	843	784	812	809	797	810	786
1936 ..	848	860	949	841	838	851	800	839	824	806	823	810
1937 ..	868	880	1,001	874	855	872	836	857	851	834	834	837
1938 ..	904	925	1,092	933	888	909	884	882	883	889	891	884
1938 June Qtr.	893	915	1,082	925	890	898	873	871	876	878	878	873
Sept. "	926	943	1,094	948	911	930	906	901	906	910	918	906
Dec. "	917	950	1,125	958	916	924	907	896	913	919	923	907
1939 Mar. Qtr.	944	973	1,160	998	942	951	951	933	938	947	948	950
June "	930	962	1,121	991	938	936	942	941	929	945	953	942
1938.												
April ..	885	903	1,080	917	880	891	856	856	864	864	869	857
May ..	887	910	1,086	922	884	893	876	874	881	882	877	876
June ..	905	930	1,080	936	905	911	887	884	883	888	888	887
July ..	923	936	1,084	944	911	927	898	902	895	897	918	898
August ..	930	949	1,096	955	915	935	915	906	914	920	923	915
September ..	924	945	1,102	945	907	929	905	896	911	913	913	905
October ..	918	953	1,114	951	906	925	901	885	909	917	916	901
November ..	909	940	1,128	952	914	916	896	886	904	914	910	896
December ..	925	958	1,132	970	929	932	925	916	926	925	944	925
1939.												
January ..	937	964	1,144	984	932	943	931	914	920	924	944	930
February ..	957	982	1,174	1,006	948	964	962	936	947	957	951	960
March ..	938	973	1,163	1,002	946	946	961	954	946	961	950	960
April ..	937	975	1,156	995	944	944	962	957	945	962	959	961
May ..	924	957	1,144	990	936	931	936	935	922	942	952	936
June ..	928	953	1,064	987	935	933	927	931	920	932	948	927

## HOUSING—(4 AND 5 ROOMS).

1934 ..	860	789	642	820	780	857	808	652	658	741	803	796
1935 ..	891	839	644	860	777	881	850	666	688	812	843	838
1936 ..	930	857	653	879	814	918	882	683	702	861	836	869
1937 ..	965	830	660	873	816	947	909	699	720	836	859	894
1938 ..	1,004	860	730	873	822	985	935	695	709	851	915	917
1938 June Qtr.	999	857	733	873	816	980	933	695	710	845	916	915
Sept. "	1,010	863	738	873	815	991	938	697	709	851	915	921
Dec. "	1,020	870	738	873	841	1,001	943	697	707	864	916	925
1939 Mar. Qtr.	1,027	879	756	872	841	1,007	949	713	725	870	916	932
June "	1,033	889	757	870	839	1,014	954	713	725	875	916	936

## FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.

1934 ..	840	818	818	817	794	838	769	730	738	753	789	766
1935 ..	858	853	832	835	808	857	808	760	766	802	826	805
1936 ..	878	858	837	854	829	875	835	780	777	825	827	831
1937 ..	904	858	869	872	838	890	862	794	798	833	842	857
1938 ..	941	898	948	908	867	937	902	808	817	872	898	895
1938 June Qtr.	932	890	943	903	859	928	894	801	809	863	891	888
Sept. "	956	910	953	917	872	952	916	820	827	885	915	910
Dec. "	955	917	972	922	885	952	919	816	831	895	918	912
1939 Mar. Qtr.	974	934	1,000	946	900	971	948	845	853	915	934	941
June "	968	931	977	941	898	964	944	850	848	916	936	937

(a) See explanatory note at top of table on page 9.

## Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("B" Series.)—continued.

(Base of each Section (a) : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Rundberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambler.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S. A.
FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
1934 ..	727	694	766	807b	732c	730	767	840	795	745	796	770
1935 ..	763	732	803	849b	754c	765	780	860	813	777	812	784
1936 ..	791	761	846	880b	781c	795	798	874	864	804	838	803
1937 ..	828	794	863	901	869	835	826	901	912	845	870	832
1938 ..	838	794	879	931	884	846	861	907	937	877	900	866
1938 Mar. Qtr.	833	787	879	920	877	841	843	892	915	865	887	847
June ..	836	797	880	928	885	844	865	905	931	866	898	869
Sept. ..	848	804	884	937	889	855	870	911	942	874	899	874
Dec. ..	835	789	874	939	883	843	866	919	958	903	915	872
1939 Mar. Qtr.	884	841	922	985	928	892	907	965	1,005	923	981	913
June ..	857	822	901	960	910	866	904	969	997	950	977	910
1938.												
April ..	830	794	877	921	880	839	861	902	920	866	900	865
May ..	836	798	879	930	885	844	869	909	940	872	901	873
June ..	843	800	883	933	890	850	865	904	935	859	894	868
July ..	845	805	888	941	892	853	868	907	940	860	897	872
August ..	854	806	889	938	893	860	877	918	946	881	899	881
September ..	846	800	875	934	884	852	865	908	940	881	902	869
October ..	839	791	877	939	882	847	862	914	949	883	905	867
November ..	824	781	863	933	875	833	860	915	950	907	910	866
December ..	843	794	881	946	892	850	878	928	975	920	931	884
1939.												
January ..	868	810	914	973	912	876	888	946	983	914	943	894
February ..	898	859	931	992	940	906	914	978	1,018	929	1,004	921
March ..	887	843	922	989	933	895	919	971	1,013	927	995	925
April ..	883	850	922	982	934	892	919	971	1,005	930	986	924
May ..	848	815	897	952	901	858	899	969	995	978	975	907
June ..	838	802	884	946	896	848	892	966	991	941	970	899

## HOUSING—(4 AND 5 ROOMS).

1934 ..	691	732	595	515b	625c	681	700	388	598	623	653	684
1935 ..	720	746	596	530b	645c	707	736	393	625	626	663	719
1936 ..	766	798	608	530b	622c	748	795	381	629	648	721	772
1937 ..	822	840	728	844	575	810	832	371	659	685	737	808
1938 ..	841	834	744	857	626	828	868	386	689	687	739	843
1938 June Qtr.	836	819	746	858	621	824	865	380	686	686	737	840
Sept. ..	844	856	747	859	641	831	873	380	686	686	737	841
Dec. ..	849	827	750	860	645	835	878	388	689	688	745	852
1939 Mar. Qtr.	852	848	753	860	638	839	884	388	701	688	747	857
June ..	853	836	753	861	638	839	888	388	704	685	748	861

## FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.

1934 ..	713	705	705	703b	694c	712	742	680	725	701	746	739
1935 ..	747	737	730	736b	716c	745	764	694	746	723	759	761
1936 ..	781	774	757	741b	721c	777	796	680	775	745	793	791
1937 ..	824	810	808	877	752	823	826	692	811	780	816	821
1938 ..	838	806	825	900	781	837	862	702	838	801	836	855
1938 June Qtr.	834	804	826	899	780	834	863	702	834	794	834	856
Sept. ..	845	814	829	905	791	844	869	705	840	799	834	861
Dec. ..	839	802	823	906	788	838	869	710	851	817	847	862
1939 Mar. Qtr.	870	842	854	934	813	869	896	738	884	830	887	889
June ..	853	826	841	919	802	853	895	740	881	844	886	889

(a) See note at top of table on page 9.

(b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.

## Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("B" Series)—continued.

(Base of each Section (a) : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.							Weighted Average, 6 Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queens- town.	Weighted Average, Tasmania.			
1934 ..	807	987	849	846	817	823	786	765	793	795	899	784	783	786	
1935 ..	821	977	852	850	846	834	792	789	830	808	905	797	806	810	
1936 ..	853	998	898	866	910	866	827	806	847	831	898	824	825	828	
1937 ..	881	1,012	928	891	961	892	870	857	902	891	927	870	851	854	
1938 ..	899	1,049	935	918	925	911	880	889	916	908	975	889	886	890	
1938 June Qtr. Sept. „ Dec. „	908	1,058	943	914	936	920	878	883	912	900	980	885	879	883	
	907	1,068	942	940	934	920	874	895	921	910	982	888	904	907	
	898	1,061	936	933	918	911	894	907	924	922	997	904	899	904	
1939 Mar. Qtr. June „	931	1,092	966	950	947	944	913	913	932	926	1,012	918	935	939	
	950	1,095	982	977	955	962	921	916	939	936	1,024	924	925	929	
1938.															
April ..	901	1,052	938	897	932	914	877	874	906	892	976	881	869	873	
May ..	909	1,057	945	921	944	922	880	888	915	902	980	888	878	882	
June ..	913	1,065	946	925	932	925	876	889	915	905	984	886	889	893	
July ..	902	1,066	944	940	939	917	869	802	920	907	979	884	890	903	
August ..	909	1,070	941	938	930	922	876	898	922	914	986	890	910	913	
September ..	909	1,067	940	941	931	922	877	896	919	909	981	890	902	906	
October ..	907	1,063	939	942	928	920	878	898	926	911	993	892	898	902	
November ..	888	1,056	931	931	901	902	891	908	923	936	1,000	903	890	895	
December ..	898	1,065	939	927	924	912	912	916	924	919	999	917	910	914	
1939.															
January ..	910	1,077	949	932	934	924	903	905	919	913	1,001	908	921	925	
February ..	940	1,108	971	947	952	953	917	921	942	941	1,016	923	947	950	
March ..	942	1,091	978	971	955	954	920	912	935	925	1,020	922	938	942	
April ..	961	1,104	991	983	962	972	922	917	941	937	1,028	925	939	943	
May ..	944	1,089	984	978	952	956	925	917	940	937	1,022	927	919	924	
June ..	945	1,093	971	970	951	957	917	913	937	934	1,021	921	916	920	

## HOUSING—(4 AND 5 ROOMS).

1934 ..	794	901	781	775	925	805	865	769	657	682	706	814	810	798
1935 ..	792	1,050	767	810	940	813	890	778	698	736	730	836	839	828
1936 ..	844	1,174	794	886	1,010	872	908	811	750	726	755	858	879	866
1937 ..	861	1,309	860	983	1,064	901	899	826	816	723	708	861	912	897
1938 ..	872	1,319	879	994	1,055	911	913	838	830	756	788	875	942	925
1938 June Qtr.	871	1,321	880	994	1,054	910	912	836	830	752	787	873	938	922
Sept. "	873	1,324	875	995	1,054	912	914	839	830	757	791	876	946	929
Dec. "	877	1,317	880	992	1,055	915	917	845	831	757	803	880	953	936
1939 Mar. Qtr.	878	1,317	883	1,003	1,058	916	920	847	831	757	803	882	959	941
June "	881	1,321	886	1,000	1,066	919	924	849	830	763	803	885	963	946

## FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.

1934 ..	802	955	825	820	855	816	814	766	745	754	830	794	792	790
1935 ..	810	1,003	822	836	879	826	827	785	785	783	843	811	818	816
1936 ..	849	1,064	858	873	945	867	856	807	810	790	844	835	844	841
1937 ..	871	1,126	899	924	999	894	879	843	866	824	874	865	872	869
1938 ..	887	1,152	911	945	974	909	891	867	880	846	900	882	906	902
1938 June Qtr.	891	1,158	916	943	980	914	889	863	878	840	902	879	900	896
Sept. "	892	1,165	914	959	978	915	888	871	883	848	905	881	918	914
Dec. "	888	1,159	912	954	969	911	901	881	886	856	919	893	918	914
1939 Mar. Qtr.	908	1,177	931	968	988	931	914	885	890	858	929	902	942	938
June "	921	1,181	942	984	996	943	920	888	895	866	936	907	938	934

(a) See note at top of table on page 9.

### § 4. The All Items ("C" Series) Index of Retail Prices.

1. **General.**—This index measures the prices of food and groceries, rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses, clothing and miscellaneous household requirements, and for convenience of reference has been designated the "All Items" ("C" series) index. It has become more important in recent years because of its adoption by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court from 1st May, 1934, for the adjustment of wages controlled by that Court. It is used at present as the basis of the "Court" series of index-numbers adopted from July, 1937, by the same Court.

The compilation of this series was undertaken by the Bureau following a recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, which reported in 1920 and 1921. A short account of its inquiries and findings is contained in section 7 of this chapter. The Commission itself had collected data on prices in the capital cities for the month of November, 1914 to 1920 inclusive. In consequence, the Bureau commenced its own more comprehensive inquiries in the five principal towns of each State, as from November, 1921, and continued them at quarterly intervals thereafter.

2. **Retail Price Index-Numbers: Capital Cities, 1914 to 1920.**—The table published on page 24 gives index-numbers representing the variations in the prices, in each capital city, of (i) food and groceries, (ii) housing (4 and 5 rooms), (iii) food, groceries and housing combined, (iv) clothing, (v) miscellaneous household requirements, and (vi) all items of household consumption combined, in the years 1914 to 1920 inclusive. The index-numbers for the clothing and miscellaneous groups for these years were compiled from data collected by the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage.

3. **Retail Price Index-Numbers: Thirty Towns, November, 1914 to June Quarter 1939.**—The following tables give index-numbers representing the variations in the prices, in 30 of the more important towns, of (i) food and groceries, (ii) housing, (iii) food, groceries and housing combined, (iv) clothing, (v) miscellaneous requirements, and (vi) all items of household consumption combined.

#### Food and Groceries.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.)

(Base: Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	638	..	..	..	..	..	616	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	964	977	972	950	935	964	923	928	919	941	948	924
Year 1933 ..	800	799	880	785	779	801	713	732	733	738	746	715
" 1934 ..	825	834	917	815	802	827	748	774	783	760	783	751
" 1935 ..	840	860	935	822	824	843	784	812	809	797	816	786
" 1936 ..	848	860	949	841	838	851	809	839	824	806	823	810
" 1937 ..	868	880	1,001	874	855	872	836	857	851	834	834	837
" 1938 ..	904	925	1,092	933	898	909	884	882	889	889	891	884
1938 June Qtr.	893	915	1,082	925	890	898	873	871	876	878	878	873
" Sept. "	926	943	1,094	948	911	930	906	901	906	910	918	906
" Dec. "	917	950	1,125	958	916	924	907	896	913	919	923	907
1939 Mar. Qtr.	944	973	1,160	998	942	951	951	933	938	947	948	950
" June "	930	962	1,121	991	938	936	942	941	929	945	953	942

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, see page 24.

## Food and Groceries.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series)—continued.

(Base: Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27=1,000.)

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rock-hampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	614	..	..	..	..	..	683	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	955	895	949	981 <sup>b</sup>	936 <sup>c</sup>	950	941	945	968	923	997	943
Year 1933 ..	699	678	749	802 <sup>b</sup>	727 <sup>c</sup>	706	731	802	750	740	773	735
" 1934 ..	727	694	766	807 <sup>b</sup>	732 <sup>c</sup>	730	767	840	795	745	796	770
" 1935 ..	763	732	803	849 <sup>b</sup>	754 <sup>c</sup>	765	780	860	813	777	812	784
" 1936 ..	791	761	846	880 <sup>b</sup>	781 <sup>c</sup>	795	798	874	864	804	838	803
" 1937 ..	828	794	863	901	869	835	826	901	912	845	870	832
" 1938 ..	838	794	879	931	884	846	861	907	937	877	900	866
1938 June Qtr.	836	797	880	928	885	844	865	905	931	866	898	869
" Sept. "	848	804	884	937	889	855	870	911	942	874	899	874
" Dec. "	835	789	874	939	883	843	866	919	958	903	915	872
1939 Mar. Qtr.	884	841	922	985	928	892	907	965	1,005	923	981	913
" June "	857	822	901	960	910	866	904	969	997	950	977	910

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 (a)	746	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	..	641	..
" 1921 ..	1,005	1,120	1,054	1,049	1,031	1,033	1,027	958	1,108	996	1,077	1,011	950	954
Year 1933 ..	757	936	807	793	760	777	757	736	764	766	873	756	751	754
" 1934 ..	807	987	849	846	817	823	786	765	793	795	899	784	783	786
" 1935 ..	821	977	852	850	846	834	792	789	830	808	905	797	806	810
" 1936 ..	853	998	898	866	910	866	827	806	847	831	898	824	825	828
" 1937 ..	881	1,012	928	891	961	892	870	857	902	891	927	870	851	854
" 1938 ..	899	1,049	935	918	925	911	880	889	916	908	975	889	886	890
1938 June Qtr.	908	1,058	943	914	936	920	878	883	912	900	980	885	879	883
" Sept. "	907	1,068	942	940	934	920	874	895	921	910	982	888	904	907
" Dec. "	898	1,061	936	933	918	911	894	907	924	922	997	904	899	904
1939 Mar. Qtr.	931	1,092	966	950	947	944	913	913	932	926	1,012	918	935	939
" June "	950	1,095	982	977	955	962	921	916	939	936	1,024	924	925	929

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 24.

(b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.

## Housing (4 and 5 rooms)—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.)

(Base: Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	758	885	559	881	596	666	608	479	557	608	685	769
" 1921 ..	1,000	885	559	881	596	666	845	479	557	608	685	769
Year 1933 ..	864	779	630	812	781	850	801	656	641	721	795	795
" 1934 ..	869	789	642	820	780	857	808	658	658	714	795	795
" 1935 ..	891	839	644	860	777	881	850	666	688	814	803	826
" 1936 ..	930	857	653	879	814	918	882	683	702	861	830	830
" 1937 ..	965	830	669	873	816	947	909	690	709	836	859	864
" 1938 ..	1,004	860	730	873	822	985	935	695	709	831	859	864
1938 June Qtr.	999	857	733	873	816	980	933	695	710	845	859	864
Sept. "	1,010	863	738	873	815	991	938	697	709	851	864	864
Dec. "	1,020	870	738	873	841	1,001	943	697	707	864	864	864
1939 Mar. Qtr.	1,027	879	756	872	841	1,007	949	713	725	870	864	864
June "	1,033	889	757	870	839	1,014	954	713	725	875	864	864

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rock-hampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	493	547	470	5386	5356	594	611	566	603	492	566	781
" 1921 ..	629	547	470	5386	5356	594	819	566	603	492	566	781
Year 1933 ..	681	732	567	5176	6106	666	694	379	601	610	710	676
" 1934 ..	691	708	595	5150	6257	681	700	388	598	622	653	684
" 1935 ..	720	746	596	5300	6450	707	726	393	625	648	675	719
" 1936 ..	766	798	608	5100	6220	748	795	381	629	648	721	779
" 1937 ..	822	840	728	844	575	810	832	371	659	688	757	808
" 1938 ..	841	834	744	857	626	828	868	366	689	687	759	843
1938 June Qtr.	836	819	746	858	621	824	865	389	686	686	737	840
Sept. "	844	856	747	859	641	831	873	389	686	686	737	847
Dec. "	849	827	750	860	645	835	878	388	689	688	745	852
1939 Mar. Qtr.	852	848	753	860	638	830	884	388	701	685	748	857
June "	853	836	753	861	638	839	888	388	704	685	748	861

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.					
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.
Nov. 1914 (a)	586	578	616	649	779	709	525	676	294	150	495	649
" 1921 ..	754	578	616	649	779	709	870	676	294	150	495	649
Year 1933 ..	795	816	786	772	921	800	866	770	628	628	690	813
" 1934 ..	794	801	781	775	925	805	866	799	657	657	706	810
" 1935 ..	792	1,050	767	810	940	813	806	778	698	726	730	834
" 1936 ..	844	1,174	794	886	1,010	822	898	811	750	726	735	838
" 1937 ..	861	1,309	860	983	1,064	901	899	826	816	723	703	861
" 1938 ..	872	1,319	879	994	1,055	911	913	838	830	756	788	873
1938 June Qtr.	871	1,321	880	994	1,054	910	912	836	830	752	787	873
Sept. "	873	1,324	875	995	1,054	912	914	839	830	757	791	876
Dec. "	877	1,317	880	992	1,055	915	917	845	831	757	803	880
1939 Mar. Qtr.	876	1,317	883	1,003	1,058	916	920	847	831	757	803	882
June "	881	1,321	886	1,000	1,066	919	924	849	830	763	803	885
Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.												823

(a) For Index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 24. (b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.



## Food, Groceries and Housing Combined (4 and 5 rooms).—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("B"(d) and "C" Series.)

(Base: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.							
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.		
Nov. 1914 (a)	680	..	..	..	..	..	613	..	..	..	..	..		
" 1921 ..	977	944	825	926	815	965	895	769	780	844	855	866		
Year 1933 ..	822	791	789	794	778	818	742	696	698	731	761	738		
" 1934 ..	840	818	818	817	794	838	769	730	738	753	789	766		
" 1935 ..	858	853	832	835	808	857	808	760	766	802	826	805		
" 1936 ..	878	858	837	854	829	875	835	780	777	825	827	831		
" 1937 ..	904	858	869	872	838	899	862	794	798	833	842	857		
" 1938 ..	941	898	948	908	867	937	902	808	817	872	898	895		
1938 June Qtr.	932	890	943	903	859	928	894	801	809	863	891	888		
" Sept. "	956	910	953	917	872	952	916	820	827	885	915	910		
" Dec. "	955	917	972	922	885	952	919	816	831	895	918	912		
1939 Mar. Qtr.	974	934	1,000	946	900	971	948	845	853	915	934	941		
" June "	968	931	977	941	898	964	944	850	848	916	936	937		
Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.							
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.		
Nov. 1914 (a)	560	..	..	..	..	..	658	..	..	..	..	..		
" 1921 ..	840	771	779	820b	794c	824	898	811	839	770	844	885		
Year 1933 ..	690	684	684	700b	684c	689	716	651	695	693	748	713		
" 1934 ..	713	705	705	703b	694c	712	742	680	725	701	746	739		
" 1935 ..	747	737	730	736b	716c	745	764	694	746	723	759	761		
" 1936 ..	781	774	757	741b	721c	777	796	689	775	745	793	791		
" 1937 ..	824	810	808	877	752	823	826	692	811	780	816	821		
" 1938 ..	838	806	825	900	781	837	862	702	838	801	836	855		
1938 June Qtr.	834	804	826	899	780	834	863	702	834	794	834	856		
" Sept. "	845	814	829	905	791	844	869	705	840	799	834	861		
" Dec. "	839	802	823	906	788	838	869	710	851	817	847	862		
1939 Mar. Qtr.	870	826	854	934	813	869	896	738	884	830	887	889		
" June "	853	826	841	919	802	853	895	740	881	844	886	889		
Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.							
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queensdown.	Weighted Average, Tas.	Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
Nov. 1914 (a)	689	..	..	..	..	..	630	..	..	..	..	..	644	..
" 1921 ..	916	928	898	907	942	918	971	858	819	696	871	911	924	907
Year 1933 ..	768	890	798	782	821	782	792	746	732	733	809	774	768	765
" 1934 ..	802	955	825	820	855	816	814	766	745	754	830	794	792	790
" 1935 ..	810	1,003	822	836	879	826	827	785	783	783	843	811	818	816
" 1936 ..	849	1,064	858	873	945	867	856	807	810	790	844	835	844	841
" 1937 ..	871	1,126	899	924	999	894	879	843	866	824	874	865	872	869
" 1938 ..	887	1,152	911	945	974	909	891*	867	880	846	900	882	906	902
1938 June Qtr.	891	1,158	916	943	980	914	889	863	878	840	902	879	900	896
" Sept. "	802	1,165	914	959	978	915	888	871	883	848	905	881	918	914
" Dec. "	888	1,159	912	954	969	911	901	881	886	856	919	893	918	914
1939 Mar. Qtr.	908	1,177	931	968	988	931	914	885	890	858	929	902	942	938
" June "	921	1,181	942	984	996	943	920	888	895	866	936	907	938	934

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 24. (b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.

(d) The index-numbers in this table are the same as those of the "B" Series (p. 9).



## Clothing.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.)

(Base : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	755	..	..	..	..	..	780	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,255	1,327	1,269	1,374	1,261	1,264	1,271	1,599	1,573	1,463	1,612	1,326
Year 1933 ..	743	820	711	948	796	751	811	839	936	794	928	817
" 1934 ..	746	811	696	935	797	753	802	840	929	784	921	807
" 1935 ..	746	810	680	922	790	751	794	856	884	843	912	802
" 1936 ..	778	809	753	878	811	782	791	845	816	834	863	795
" 1937 ..	818	796	824	833	812	817	803	831	819	809	822	805
" 1938 ..	833	810	833	848	824	831	820	843	832	833	831	825
1938 June Qtr.	834	811	834	849	824	832	810	842	833	833	831	821
" Sept. "	834	813	835	850	824	833	821	843	834	835	830	822
" Dec. "	834	811	835	851	827	832	819	844	830	835	831	821
1939 Mar. Qtr.	835	812	837	852	828	834	810	844	829	837	832	821
" June "	841	817	850	860	838	840	822	844	830	841	836	824

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	657	..	..	..	..	..	756	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,125	1,408	1,452	1,568b	1,519c	1,235	1,195	1,435	1,480	1,697	1,180	1,238
Year 1933 ..	791	912	832	764b	844c	804	830	849	796	961	951	833
" 1934 ..	786	897	815	750b	840c	796	846	828	794	944	964	871
" 1935 ..	772	818	824	761b	791c	779	853	810	803	937	927	852
" 1936 ..	777	779	831	794b	767c	782	833	803	810	890	851	832
" 1937 ..	794	805	826	812	806	790	821	804	811	818	814	820
" 1938 ..	823	826	840	833	831	825	857	848	846	846	844	856
1938 June Qtr.	823	828	839	833	832	825	850	854	852	849	847	859
" Sept. "	825	828	841	833	834	827	850	853	853	850	846	858
" Dec. "	829	829	846	841	836	831	861	852	849	854	844	860
1939 Mar. Qtr.	829	829	847	842	840	832	860	850	850	851	845	859
" June "	833	831	847	845	846	835	861	850	852	848	841	860

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.					
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, Tas.
Nov. 1914 (a)	698	..	..	..	..	..	825	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,232	1,376	1,382	1,454	1,320	1,277	1,427	1,670	1,525	1,405	1,504	1,513
Year 1933 ..	819	1,033	791	874	834	843	881	962	847	831	1,061	905
" 1934 ..	817	1,035	767	864	821	834	882	958	839	844	1,048	907
" 1935 ..	825	1,056	775	911	839	843	909	938	831	827	987	910
" 1936 ..	815	959	802	878	851	827	859	873	807	826	875	859
" 1937 ..	806	832	819	828	827	800	821	823	820	832	820	822
" 1938 ..	823	846	835	845	841	826	848	839	835	845	842	844
1938 June Qtr.	825	848	837	847	843	828	847	836	835	846	842	843
" Sept. "	825	849	837	847	843	828	847	836	835	845	843	843
" Dec. "	826	848	837	847	843	829	852	845	837	844	846	848
1939 Mar. Qtr.	825	848	837	847	843	828	852	846	838	839	848	849
" June "	825	850	836	846	842	828	854	848	841	839	851	851

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	755	..	..	..	..	..	780	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,255	1,327	1,269	1,374	1,261	1,264	1,271	1,599	1,573	1,463	1,612	1,326
Year 1933 ..	743	820	711	948	796	751	811	839	936	794	928	817
" 1934 ..	746	811	696	935	797	753	802	840	929	784	921	807
" 1935 ..	746	810	680	922	790	751	794	856	884	843	912	802
" 1936 ..	778	809	753	878	811	782	791	845	816	834	863	795
" 1937 ..	818	796	824	833	812	817	803	831	819	809	822	805
" 1938 ..	833	810	833	848	824	831	820	843	832	833	831	825
1938 June Qtr.	834	811	834	849	824	832	810	842	833	833	831	821
" Sept. "	834	813	835	850	824	833	821	843	834	835	830	822
" Dec. "	834	811	835	851	827	832	819	844	830	835	831	821
1939 Mar. Qtr.	835	812	837	852	828	834	810	844	829	837	832	821
" June "	841	817	850	860	838	840	822	844	830	841	836	824

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 24. (b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.

## Miscellaneous.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.)

(Base: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

NEW SOUTH WALES.							VICTORIA.							
Period.	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.		
Nov. 1914 (a)	766	..	..	..	..	..	728	..	..	..	..	..		
" 1921 ..	1,009	995	1,102	951	989	1,011	1,021	956	1,012	1,033	880	1,015		
Year 1933 ..	988	913	985	871	879	979	916	874	904	885	827	912		
" 1934 ..	975	921	988	867	864	969	914	877	908	880	825	911		
" 1935 ..	976	927	964	868	867	970	922	880	922	873	851	918		
" 1936 ..	949	900	1,007	887	881	945	947	958	977	947	922	948		
" 1937 ..	939	895	1,061	901	902	937	978	1,006	1,011	995	953	980		
" 1938 ..	936	903	1,053	909	892	935	982	1,006	1,011	994	954	983		
1938 June Qtr.	934	905	1,052	910	893	934	982	1,006	1,011	994	953	983		
" Sept. "	935	905	1,052	912	890	934	982	1,005	1,011	993	953	983		
" Dec. "	935	906	1,052	910	890	934	981	1,006	1,011	992	954	983		
1939 Mar. Qtr.	937	896	1,046	906	886	935	978	985	1,001	975	947	979		
" June "	939	899	1,048	908	887	937	974	988	1,003	977	949	975		
QUEENSLAND							SOUTH AUSTRALIA.							
Period.	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.		
Nov. 1914 (a)	728	..	..	..	..	..	770	..	..	..	..	..		
" 1921 ..	944	953	1,002	1,009 <sup>b</sup>	988 <sup>c</sup>	958	1,033	1,065	1,065	1,032	1,000	1,036		
Year 1933 ..	900	909	881	973 <sup>b</sup>	897 <sup>c</sup>	901	983	944	944	957	956	980		
" 1934 ..	900	907	876	967 <sup>b</sup>	891 <sup>c</sup>	900	976	937	944	949	958	973		
" 1935 ..	904	909	877	1,015 <sup>b</sup>	929 <sup>c</sup>	905	973	941	921	937	968	969		
" 1936 ..	917	929	920	1,067 <sup>b</sup>	993 <sup>c</sup>	922	993	978	936	970	1,003	991		
" 1937 ..	941	988	969	1,000	1,007	952	1,022	981	995	1,013	1,015	1,020		
" 1938 ..	947	990	971	1,000	1,001	957	1,023	991	1,001	1,017	1,011	1,021		
1938 June Qtr.	947	1,000	975	1,002	1,013	958	1,022	988	998	1,017	1,011	1,020		
" Sept. "	949	981	976	1,002	991	958	1,022	991	1,003	1,017	1,015	1,020		
" Dec. "	949	981	961	995	992	956	1,021	991	1,002	1,018	997	1,019		
1939 Mar. Qtr.	951	981	963	996	989	958	1,019	986	995	1,013	995	1,016		
" June "	955	989	968	995	993	962	1,020	988	998	1,014	997	1,018		
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.							TASMANIA.							
Period.	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, Tas.	Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
Nov. 1914 (a)	780	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..	749	..
" 1921 ..	1,029	1,030	1,016	977	1,102	1,029	932	985	941	960	959	952	1,010	1,009
Year 1933 ..	945	963	895	894	966	945	860	864	825	827	803	856	950	944
" 1934 ..	942	961	902	894	966	943	855	864	825	823	804	853	944	939
" 1935 ..	927	975	925	909	972	931	856	864	793	831	824	853	946	941
" 1936 ..	932	990	946	906	1,002	937	883	908	839	839	841	887	947	946
" 1937 ..	946	971	953	903	1,058	950	939	947	869	876	854	933	960	961
" 1938 ..	949	968	953	909	1,053	951	933	939	866	867	843	927	961	962
1938 June Qtr.	948	968	953	910	1,053	951	930	944	863	864	842	926	960	961
" Sept. "	947	968	953	910	1,052	950	931	931	867	864	842	923	961	961
" Dec. "	952	971	951	910	1,056	955	930	931	866	865	841	922	961	961
1939 Mar. Qtr.	952	972	946	910	1,055	955	929	934	867	876	872	924	960	960
" June "	952	972	947	910	1,028	954	939	948	876	885	882	935	961	960

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see page 24.

(b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.

## All Items of Household Expenditure.—Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.)

(Base : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 (a)	712	..	..	..	..	..	671	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,046	1,041	975	1,033	947	1,042	1,003	992	1,002	1,019	1,034	1,003
Year 1933 ..	832	819	806	843	801	830	789	760	789	772	812	787
" 1934 ..	842	834	819	852	807	841	801	781	811	782	826	801
" 1935 ..	852	856	819	860	814	852	824	803	820	824	850	824
" 1936 ..	866	853	848	864	833	865	844	826	821	848	851	843
" 1937 ..	889	849	893	867	842	886	868	839	840	855	856	866
" 1938 ..	913	877	940	893	860	911	896	859	854	884	892	893
1938 June Qtr.	908	873	937	890	856	906	892	846	850	879	887	889
" Sept. "	923	886	943	899	862	920	905	857	860	892	901	902
" Dec. "	922	889	954	902	871	920	906	855	862	898	904	903
1939 Mar. Qtr.	934	898	970	916	880	932	923	869	873	907	912	919
" June "	932	898	959	915	880	929	921	872	870	909	914	917
Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambler.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 (a)	611	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	923	949	972	1,025 <sup>b</sup>	994 <sup>c</sup>	941	989	998	1,025	1,029	948	992
Year 1933 ..	751	778	752	762 <sup>b</sup>	757 <sup>c</sup>	753	789	747	762	800	832	787
" 1934 ..	762	785	759	759 <sup>b</sup>	761 <sup>c</sup>	764	806	758	778	800	832	804
" 1935 ..	780	785	776	789 <sup>b</sup>	766 <sup>c</sup>	780	820	763	789	809	833	817
" 1936 ..	804	805	802	810 <sup>b</sup>	779 <sup>c</sup>	803	839	765	813	818	843	835
" 1937 ..	837	840	840	883	809	840	859	769	844	830	851	855
" 1938 ..	852	843	853	902	831	854	888	786	868	849	868	883
1938 June Qtr.	850	844	854	901	833	853	889	787	866	846	868	884
" Sept. "	858	846	857	905	835	859	893	789	871	849	868	888
" Dec. "	855	839	852	906	834	856	893	791	877	861	872	888
1939 Mar. Qtr.	874	863	871	923	849	875	908	806	895	867	896	904
" June "	866	855	864	915	845	867	908	808	894	875	895	904
Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.					
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.
Nov. 1914 (a)	707	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	687
" 1921 ..	1,008	1,048	1,030	1,045	1,056	1,020	1,070	1,067	1,003	904	1,031	1,057
Year 1933 ..	811	937	814	824	851	825	825	817	775	773	867	820
" 1934 ..	830	975	825	843	866	842	837	828	780	787	876	831
" 1935 ..	834	1,011	829	865	886	848	849	834	792	801	873	841
" 1936 ..	856	1,027	860	880	933	870	860	840	814	809	850	850
" 1937 ..	869	1,030	890	897	970	884	875	856	854	833	857	866
" 1938 ..	882	1,048	900	914	957	897	887	872	865	848	875	879
1938 June Qtr.	886	1,052	904	914	961	900	885	870	863	844	876	877
" Sept. "	886	1,057	902	923	900	901	885	872	867	848	878	878
" Dec. "	884	1,053	901	920	955	899	893	880	869	852	886	886
1939 Mar. Qtr.	896	1,064	911	928	967	911	901	883	872	855	898	892
" June "	904	1,067	918	937	966	918	907	888	877	861	905	897
												919
												917
												916
												915

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November 1914 to 1920, see p. 24.

(b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.

## Retail Price Index-Numbers. ("C" Series.) All Items of Household Consumption.

## Relative Cost of Each Group of Items.

(Base: Weighted Average Cost of All Groups in each Town = 1,000.)

Town.	1937.					1938.				
	Food and Groceries.	Housing (4 and 5 Rooms).	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	Total Household Expenditure.	Food and Groceries.	Housing (4 and 5 Rooms).	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	Total Household Expenditure.
<b>New South Wales—</b>										
Sydney .. ..	352	251	202	195	1,000	356	254	201	189	1,000
Newcastle .. ..	374	226	206	194	1,000	380	227	203	190	1,000
Broken Hill .. ..	403	174	203	220	1,000	418	180	195	207	1,000
Goulburn .. ..	363	233	211	193	1,000	377	226	209	188	1,000
Bathurst .. ..	366	223	213	198	1,000	376	221	211	192	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	355	247	202	196	1,000	359	251	200	190	1,000
<b>Victoria—</b>										
Melbourne .. ..	347	242	203	208	1,000	355	241	201	203	1,000
Ballarat .. ..	368	192	217	223	1,000	374	189	218	219	1,000
Bendigo .. ..	365	198	214	223	1,000	375	192	214	219	1,000
Geelong .. ..	351	226	208	215	1,000	362	223	207	208	1,000
Warrnambool .. ..	350	233	211	206	1,000	360	236	205	199	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	348	239	204	209	1,000	357	237	202	204	1,000
<b>Queensland—</b>										
Brisbane .. ..	356	227	209	208	1,000	354	228	212	206	1,000
Toowoomba .. ..	340	231	211	218	1,000	340	227	216	217	1,000
Rockhampton .. ..	370	200	217	213	1,000	371	201	217	211	1,000
Townsville .. ..	367	221	203	209	1,000	372	220	203	205	1,000
Bundaberg .. ..	387	164	219	230	1,000	383	174	220	223	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	358	222	210	210	1,000	357	224	212	207	1,000
<b>South Australia—</b>										
Adelaide .. ..	347	223	210	220	1,000	349	226	212	213	1,000
Kadina, etc. .. ..	421	112	230	237	1,000	417	113	237	233	1,000
Port Pirie .. ..	390	181	211	218	1,000	389	183	215	213	1,000
Mount Gambier .. ..	366	191	217	226	1,000	372	187	219	222	1,000
Peterborough .. ..	368	201	210	221	1,000	373	197	215	215	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	351	217	211	221	1,000	353	220	213	214	1,000
<b>Western Australia—</b>										
Perth, etc. .. ..	365	229	205	201	1,000	367	229	205	199	1,000
Kalgoorlie, etc. .. ..	353	294	178	175	1,000	361	291	177	171	1,000
Northam .. ..	375	224	202	199	1,000	374	226	204	196	1,000
Bunbury .. ..	358	253	203	186	1,000	362	251	203	184	1,000
Geraldton .. ..	357	253	188	202	1,000	348	255	193	204	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	363	235	202	200	1,000	366	235	203	196	1,000
<b>Tasmania—</b>										
Hobart .. ..	358	237	206	199	1,000	357	238	210	195	1,000
Lannceston .. ..	361	223	211	205	1,000	367	222	211	200	1,000
Burnie .. ..	381	220	211	188	1,000	382	222	212	184	1,000
Devonport .. ..	385	201	220	194	1,000	385	206	219	190	1,000
Queenstown .. ..	390	214	210	186	1,000	402	208	212	178	1,000
Weighted Average, 5 Towns	361	230	209	200	1,000	364	230	210	196	1,000
<b>Weighted Average for 30 Towns</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>Weighted Average 6 Capital Cities ..</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>1,000</b>
Charters Towers (Q.) ..	391	135	221	253	1,000	395	136	222	247	1,000
Warwick (Q.) .. ..	368	170	225	237	1,000	367	176	226	231	1,000
Port Augusta (S.A.) ..	401	168	214	217	1,000	397	173	217	213	1,000

4. Retail Price Index-Numbers in Terms of Currency: Capital Cities, 1933 to 1939.—In each part of the following table the average cost of the particular regimen in the six capital cities during the five-yearly period

1923-1927 has been equated to a base of 20 shillings. The figures measure the variations in the prices of—(i) food and groceries, (ii) housing (4 and 5 rooms), (iii) food, groceries, and housing combined, (iv) clothing, (v) miscellaneous household requirements, and (vi) all items of household consumption combined.

**Retail Price Index-Numbers in Terms of Currency : Capital Cities ("C" Series).**

(Base of each Group : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 208.0d.)

Year.	Sydney.	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Cities.
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**GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.**

	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1933 ..	16 0	14 3	14 0	14 7	15 2	15 2	15 0
1934 ..	16 6	15 0	14 7	15 4	16 2	15 9	15 8
1935 ..	16 10	15 8	15 3	15 7	16 5	15 10	16 1
1936 ..	17 0	16 2	15 10	16 0	17 1	16 6	16 6
1937 ..	17 4	16 9	16 7	16 6	17 7	17 5	17 0
1938 ..	18 1	17 8	16 9	17 3	18 0	17 7	17 9
1938 Mar. Qtr.	17 7	17 0	16 8	16 10	17 8	17 6	17 3
"   June   "	17 10	17 6	16 9	17 4	18 2	17 7	17 7
"   Sept.  "	18 6	18 1	17 0	17 5	18 2	17 6	18 1
"   Dec.   "	18 4	18 2	16 8	17 4	18 0	17 11	18 0
1939 Mar.   "	18 11	19 0	17 8	18 2	18 7	18 3	18 8
"   June   "	18 7	18 10	17 2	18 1	19 0	18 5	18 6

**GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).**

	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1933 ..	17 3	16 0	13 7	13 11	15 11	17 2	16 1
1934 ..	17 5	16 2	13 10	14 0	15 11	17 4	16 2
1935 ..	17 10	17 0	14 5	14 9	15 10	17 10	16 9
1936 ..	18 7	17 8	15 4	15 11	16 11	18 0	17 7
1937 ..	19 4	18 2	16 5	16 8	17 3	18 2	18 3
1938 ..	20 1	18 8	16 10	17 4	17 5	18 3	18 10
1938 Mar. Qtr.	19 9	18 6	16 7	17 2	17 4	18 2	18 7
"   June   "	20 0	18 8	16 9	17 4	17 5	18 3	18 9
"   Sept.  "	20 2	18 9	16 11	17 6	17 6	18 3	18 11
"   Dec.   "	20 5	18 10	17 0	17 7	17 7	18 4	19 1
1939 Mar.   "	20 7	19 0	17 1	17 8	17 7	18 5	19 2
"   June   "	20 8	19 1	17 1	17 9	17 7	18 7	19 3

**GROUPS I. AND II.—FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.**

	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1933 ..	16 5	14 10	13 10	14 4	15 4	15 10	15 4
1934 ..	16 10	15 5	14 3	14 10	16 1	16 3	15 10
1935 ..	17 2	16 2	14 11	15 3	16 2	16 7	16 4
1936 ..	17 7	16 8	15 7	15 11	17 0	17 1	16 11
1937 ..	18 1	17 3	16 6	16 6	17 5	17 7	17 5
1938 ..	18 10	18 1	16 9	17 3	17 9	17 10	18 1
1938 Mar. Qtr.	18 5	17 7	16 8	16 11	17 6	17 9	17 9
"   June   "	18 8	17 11	16 8	17 3	17 10	17 9	18 0
"   Sept.  "	19 1	18 4	16 11	17 5	17 10	17 9	18 4
"   Dec.   "	19 1	18 5	16 9	17 5	17 9	18 0	18 4
1939 Mar.   "	19 6	19 0	17 5	17 11	18 2	18 3	18 10
"   June   "	19 4	18 11	17 1	17 11	18 5	18 5	18 9

**Retail Price Index-Numbers in Terms of Currency : Capital Cities ("C" Series)—**  
*continued.*

(Base of each Group : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 20s. od.)

Year.	Sydney.	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Cities.
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**GROUP III.—CLOTHING.**

	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1933 ..	14 10	16 3	15 10	16 7	16 5	17 7	15 9
1934 ..	14 11	16 1	15 9	16 11	16 4	17 8	15 8
1935 ..	14 11	15 11	15 5	17 1	16 6	18 1	15 8
1936 ..	15 7	15 10	15 7	16 8	16 4	17 2	15 10
1937 ..	16 4	16 1	15 11	16 5	16 1	16 5	16 3
1938 ..	16 8	16 5	16 6	17 2	16 6	17 0	16 7
1938 Mar. Qtr.	16 7	16 5	16 3	17 0	16 4	16 11	16 6
"   June   "	16 8	16 5	16 6	17 2	16 6	16 11	16 7
"   Sept.  "	16 8	16 5	16 6	17 2	16 6	16 11	16 7
"   Dec.   "	16 8	16 5	16 7	17 3	16 6	17 1	16 7
1939 Mar.   "	16 8	16 5	16 7	17 2	16 6	17 1	16 8
"   June   "	16 10	16 5	16 8	17 3	16 6	17 1	16 9

**GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.**

1933 ..	19 9	18 4	18 0	19 8	18 11	17 2	19 0
1934 ..	19 6	18 3	18 0	19 6	18 10	17 1	18 11
1935 ..	19 6	18 5	18 1	19 6	18 7	17 1	18 11
1936 ..	19 0	18 11	18 4	19 10	18 8	17 8	18 11
1937 ..	18 9	19 7	18 10	20 5	18 11	18 9	19 2
1938 ..	18 9	19 8	18 11	20 6	19 0	18 8	19 3
1938 Mar. Qtr.	18 10	19 7	18 10	20 6	18 11	18 10	19 3
"   June   "	18 8	19 8	18 11	20 5	19 0	18 7	19 2
"   Sept.  "	18 8	19 8	19 0	20 5	18 11	18 7	19 3
"   Dec.   "	18 8	19 7	19 0	20 5	19 1	18 7	19 3
1939 Mar.   "	18 9	19 7	19 0	20 5	19 1	18 7	19 2
"   June   "	18 9	19 6	19 1	20 5	19 1	18 9	19 3

**GROUPS I-IV.—ALL ITEMS OF HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION.**

1933 ..	16 8	15 9	15 0	15 9	16 3	16 6	16 1
1934 ..	16 10	16 0	15 3	16 1	16 7	16 9	16 4
1935 ..	17 1	16 6	15 7	16 5	16 8	17 0	16 8
1936 ..	17 4	16 11	16 1	16 9	17 1	17 2	17 0
1937 ..	17 9	17 4	16 9	17 2	17 5	17 6	17 6
1938 ..	18 3	17 11	17 1	17 9	17 8	17 9	17 11
1938 Mar. Qtr.	18 0	17 7	16 11	17 7	17 6	17 8	17 8
"   June   "	18 2	17 10	17 0	17 9	17 9	17 8	17 10
"   Sept.  "	18 6	18 1	17 2	17 10	17 9	17 8	18 1
"   Dec.   "	18 5	18 1	17 1	17 10	17 8	17 10	18 1
1939 Mar.   "	18 8	18 6	17 6	18 2	17 11	18 0	18 5
"   June   "	18 8	18 5	17 4	18 2	18 1	18 2	18 4

**Retail Price Index-Numbers : Capital Cities ("C" Series). All Items of Household Consumption.**

(Base of each Group : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals.
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**GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.**

Nov. 1914 ..	638	616	614	683	746	687	641
" 1915 ..	844	835	860	858	819	858	842
" 1916 ..	833	791	748	835	854	807	812
" 1917 ..	877	798	825	805	828	949	836
" 1918 ..	877	843	882	862	816	918	861
" 1919 ..	1,073	975	1,069	1,012	987	1,041	1,026
" 1920 ..	1,225	1,220	1,117	1,225	1,113	1,293	1,209

**GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS).**

Nov. 1914 ..	758	608	463	611	586	525	649
" 1915 ..	780	611	472	574	581	571	659
" 1916 ..	791	625	467	573	592	574	665
" 1917 ..	797	657	492	606	602	586	685
" 1918 ..	832	699	526	656	619	614	722
" 1919 ..	866	744	604	707	650	746	768
" 1920 ..	980	807	634	783	718	904	851

**GROUPS I. AND II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.**

Nov. 1914 ..	680	613	560	658	689	630	644
" 1915 ..	825	756	722	758	734	756	777
" 1916 ..	818	732	648	742	761	724	760
" 1917 ..	848	748	707	734	748	820	782
" 1918 ..	861	792	756	789	746	810	812
" 1919 ..	1,000	893	904	904	867	936	934
" 1920 ..	1,138	1,074	945	1,068	973	1,155	1,082

**GROUP III.—CLOTHING.**

Nov. 1914 ..	755	780	657	756	698	825	754
" 1915 ..	805	797	690	821	760	833	792
" 1916 ..	903	870	779	919	849	940	881
" 1917 ..	1,009	976	899	1,049	980	1,041	992
" 1918 ..	1,102	1,103	1,025	1,066	1,135	1,200	1,097
" 1919 ..	1,237	1,213	1,192	1,303	1,277	1,344	1,238
" 1920 ..	1,323	1,422	1,274	1,384	1,359	1,430	1,365

**GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.**

Nov. 1914 ..	766	728	728	770	780	699	749
" 1915 ..	798	770	756	803	822	770	786
" 1916 ..	808	784	766	832	869	780	802
" 1917 ..	889	879	836	883	926	865	881
" 1918 ..	988	950	931	988	1,035	945	972
" 1919 ..	1,059	1,016	968	1,035	1,120	1,006	1,036
" 1920 ..	1,209	1,181	1,139	1,200	1,262	1,124	1,194

**GROUPS I. TO IV.—ALL ITEMS OF HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION.**

Nov. 1914 ..	712	671	611	699	707	687	687
" 1915 ..	816	768	721	780	755	776	782
" 1916 ..	836	773	698	798	800	783	795
" 1917 ..	892	823	773	832	832	879	847
" 1918 ..	938	890	848	887	885	923	905
" 1919 ..	1,065	988	981	1,018	1,005	1,042	1,022
" 1920 ..	1,193	1,172	1,054	1,164	1,111	1,213	1,166



## § 5. Retail Price Index-Numbers, 200 Towns.

1. **General.**—To supplement the information collected monthly for the 30 towns specified in the preceding sections, a special investigation into prices in 70 additional towns was undertaken in November, 1913. This investigation was repeated in November, 1914, and again in November, 1915, when the number of additional towns was increased to 120. In November, 1923, the number was further increased to 170. Information in regard to prices obtained in November each year relates at present, therefore, to 200 towns. The results of the first investigation were published in Labour Bulletin No. 5 (pages 26 to 33), and details respecting succeeding investigations are incorporated in the Labour Bulletins and Reports issued subsequently by this Bureau.

In issues of these publications prior to No. 28 of 1937, information was given regarding movements in the rents of 4-roomed and 5-roomed houses. While the index-numbers were useful in a general way as a measure of changes in rents in any one town from time to time, there has been an increasing tendency to regard them as an adequate measure of the relative absolute levels of rents in different towns at any given date. In order to prevent such a misuse of the figures, and because of increasing doubts as to the ability of the Bureau, except at prohibitive cost, to ensure that returns of rents from all these towns shall be based on continuously representative samples, it has reluctantly been decided to limit the information collected to the prices of food and groceries. Should any industrial tribunal desire further information on house rentals in any of these towns, the Bureau will be prepared to consider requests for special investigations by its staff of field officers.

2. **Retail Price Index-Numbers : 200 Towns, 1934 to 1938.**—In the following table the base of the index-numbers has been changed from that used in issues of the Labour Report prior to No. 28 of 1937. The new base is the weighted average cost of food and groceries in the six capital cities in the period 1923–27.

### Retail Price Index-Numbers (200 Towns Series): Food and Groceries.

(Base : Weighted average in Six Capital Cities, 1923–27 = 1,000.)

State and Town.	1934. November.	1935. November.	1936. November.	1937. November.	1938. November.
<b>New South Wales—</b>					
Albury .. ..	794	803	857	864	930
Armidale .. ..	776	821	811	853	890
Ballina .. ..	803	812	853	852	930
Bathurst* .. ..	809	842	838	861	914
Bega .. ..	823	851	863	875	937
Berry .. ..	861	874	873	880	956
Blackheath .. ..	851	882	920	927	977
Bourke .. ..	847	873	901	913	1,002
Bowral .. ..	832	848	861	887	954
Broken Hill* ..	924	929	977	1,036	1,128

\* Information also available monthly for these towns.



## Index-Numbers (200 Towns Series) : Food and Groceries—continued.

State and Town.	1934. November.	1935. November.	1936. November.	1937. November.	1938. November.
<b>New South Wales—contd.</b>					
Casino .. ..	790	855	900	900	979
Cessnock .. ..	792	846	849	858	924
Cobar .. ..	976	1,012	1,031	1,038	1,109
Cooma .. ..	837	895	879	883	990
Coonamble .. ..	880	918	961	921	990
Cootamundra .. ..	789	824	849	829	944
Corrimal .. ..	817	834	876	884	920
Cowra .. ..	808	844	860	873	953
Cronulla .. ..	833	859	876	886	901
Deniliquin .. ..	864	883	907	967	995
Dubbo .. ..	771	842	848	863	892
Forbes .. ..	823	883	862	863	918
Gilgandra .. ..	846	873	864	881	938
Glen Innes .. ..	767	807	814	819	873
Goulburn* .. ..	824	846	855	888	952
Grafton .. ..	781	824	854	888	913
Grenfell .. ..	806	830	837	841	923
Griffith .. ..	908	913	940	936	983
Gulgong .. ..	782	821	855	839	883
Gunnedah .. ..	775	829	842	833	870
Hay .. ..	897	903	931	906	1,010
Inverell .. ..	809	848	802	831	878
Junee .. ..	817	828	876	914	922
Katoomba .. ..	833	867	885	915	970
Kempsey .. ..	810	803	811	836	889
Kiama .. ..	887	887	904	911	965
Kurri Kurri .. ..	818	808	839	838	919
Leeton .. ..	848	886	894	926	978
Lismore .. ..	782	834	886	918	994
Lithgow* .. ..	854	859	809	873	961
Maitland .. ..	788	833	832	835	906
Moree .. ..	878	886	904	894	956
Moss Vale .. ..	813	844	849	895	922
Mudgee .. ..	773	819	840	860	922
Narrabri .. ..	841	877	894	901	954
Narrandera .. ..	848	864	898	896	977
Newcastle* .. ..	849	880	869	882	940
Nowra .. ..	840	901	899	887	983
Orange .. ..	773	817	812	815	918
Parkes .. ..	805	843	859	903	964
Penrith .. ..	788	806	818	825	868
Port Kembla .. ..	855	866	908	905	963
Portland .. ..	841	862	857	877	903
Queanbeyan .. ..	850	884	905	953	1,000
Quirindi .. ..	855	864	866	890	909
Richmond .. ..	839	826	816	827	826
Scone .. ..	809	836	861	871	893
Singleton .. ..	779	826	813	830	900
Sydney* .. ..	836	851	863	877	909
Tamworth .. ..	785	806	806	829	895

\* Information also available monthly for these towns.

## Index-Numbers (200 Towns Series): Food and Groceries—continued.

State and Town.	1934. November.	1935. November.	1936. November.	1937. November.	1938. November.
<b>New South Wales—contd.</b>					
Taree .. ..	785	848	864	889	922
Temora .. ..	803	804	823	862	961
Tenterfield .. ..	772	831	865	864	936
Tumut .. ..	810	832	837	842	947
Umarra .. ..	828	852	892	885	969
Wagga Wagga .. ..	797	835	850	884	935
Walcha .. ..	836	927	845	866	910
Wellington .. ..	831	818	828	829	851
Weston .. ..	792	818	835	841	913
Windsor .. ..	788	850	851	864	892
Wollongong .. ..	867	829	853	878	955
Wyalong .. ..	815	862	870	895	966
Yass .. ..	813	850	837	887	978
Young .. ..	853	855	843	867	948
Weighted Average for State (74 Towns) ..	834	852	863	878	919
<b>Victoria—</b>					
Ararat .. ..	828	855	918	910	942
Bacchus Marsh .. ..	788	820	860	887	920
Bairnsdale .. ..	846	862	880	879	912
Ballarat* .. ..	777	818	872	860	886
Beechworth .. ..	813	828	885	890	969
Benalla .. ..	830	850	880	905	945
Bendigo* .. ..	794	812	856	853	904
Camperdown .. ..	814	849	863	868	932
Casterton .. ..	835	845	888	873	957
Castlemaine .. ..	775	828	845	848	884
Colac .. ..	813	817	842	850	907
Creswick .. ..	789	838	859	863	882
Daylesford .. ..	789	813	843	865	922
Dunolly .. ..	794	835	889	872	909
Echuca .. ..	784	824	846	857	921
Euroa .. ..	803	845	875	878	975
Geelong* .. ..	757	796	833	857	914
Hamilton .. ..	805	855	911	885	958
Healesville .. ..	818	831	892	917	947
Horsham .. ..	801	873	926	916	928
Kerang .. ..	819	869	895	927	941
Koroit .. ..	795	828	836	840	896
Korumburra .. ..	781	783	835	859	895
Kyneton .. ..	757	785	851	870	921
Lilydale .. ..	815	845	884	881	915
Maffra .. ..	785	825	901	865	925
Maldon .. ..	827	848	876	888	953
Maryborough .. ..	785	811	888	891	978
Melbourne* .. ..	758	797	833	848	896
Mildura .. ..	870	903	938	977	992
Morwell .. ..	822	842	858	887	922
Nhill .. ..	853	913	956	933	967
Orbost .. ..	814	870	912	919	968
Portland .. ..	804	863	863	862	903
Port Fairy .. ..	783	820	862	840	911

\* Information also available monthly for these towns.

Index-Numbers (200 Towns Series) : Food and Groceries—*continued.*

State and Town.	1934. November.	1935. November.	1936. November.	1937. November.	1938. November.
<b>Victoria—continued.</b>					
St. Arnaud .. ..	851	875	930	930	997
Sale .. ..	785	827	895	890	958
Seymour .. ..	848	880	901	937	991
Shepparton .. ..	804	819	864	880	954
Stawell .. ..	861	911	949	934	1,007
Swan Hill .. ..	833	874	918	924	969
Terang .. ..	819	875	863	885	924
Traralgon .. ..	787	816	839	834	878
Wangaratta .. ..	787	827	880	879	955
Warracknabeal .. ..	788	828	858	881	936
Warragul .. ..	789	820	827	845	905
Warrnambool* .. ..	759	785	844	834	910
Wonthaggi .. ..	794	804	895	913	946
Weighted Average for State (48 Towns) ..	765	803	841	854	902
<b>Queensland—</b>					
Ayr .. ..	819	825	841	867	913
Barcaldine .. ..	881	938	959	959	993
Bowen .. ..	888	885	902	902	961
Brisbane* .. ..	726	780	820	835	824
Bundaberg* .. ..	753	803	874	873	875
Cairns .. ..	837	887	915	914	949
Charleville .. ..	881	949	989	969	970
Charters Towers* .. ..	802	876	889	887	933
Chillagoe .. ..	913	900	915	946	944
Cloncurry .. ..	930	1,030	1,026	1,031	1,050
Cooktown .. ..	920	963	986	989	1,003
Cunnamulla .. ..	894	927	938	921	951
Dalby .. ..	760	807	870	836	835
Gayndah .. ..	792	851	907	867	895
Gladstone .. ..	771	827	871	870	903
Goondiwindi .. ..	820	889	914	868	893
Gympie .. ..	773	857	849	840	859
Hughenden .. ..	891	919	931	925	980
Innisfail .. ..	907	943	974	995	978
Ipswich .. ..	745	785	820	825	824
Longreach .. ..	921	978	990	993	1,009
Mackay .. ..	807	872	898	895	916
Maryborough .. ..	723	794	828	835	849
Mount Morgan .. ..	831	855	891	880	902
Nambour .. ..	767	834	844	863	883
Rockhampton* .. ..	764	839	864	877	863
Roma .. ..	823	877	885	870	921
Stanthorpe .. ..	775	803	817	830	898
Toowoomba* .. ..	695	751	800	789	781
Townsville* .. ..	817	887	904	921	933
Warwick* .. ..	721	792	820	795	822
Winton .. ..	919	931	951	963	1,021
Weighted Average for State (32 Towns) ..	747	806	841	850	849

\* Information also available monthly for these towns.

Index-Numbers (200 Towns Series): Food and Groceries—*continued.*

State and Town.	1934. November.	1935. November.	1936. November.	1937. November.	1938. November.
<b>South Australia—</b>					
Adelaide* .. ..	774	784	804	833	860
Freeling .. ..	768	804	823	845	856
Gawler .. ..	777	772	814	827	840
Kadina, Moonta, Wall- aroo* .. ..	849	868	890	897	915
Kapunda .. ..	762	793	812	836	848
Koorunga .. ..	790	868	879	899	1,037
Millicent .. ..	806	805	820	918	875
Mount Gambier* ..	751	802	815	847	907
Murray Bridge ..	732	763	776	810	839
Peterborough* ..	806	816	851	884	910
Port Augusta* ..	864	892	926	945	949
Port Pirie* .. ..	813	811	896	915	950
Quorn .. ..	801	848	841	853	881
Renmark .. ..	791	920	919	906	931
Victor Harbour ..	908	815	839	852	857
Weighted Average for State (15 Towns) ..	779	791	813	841	868
<b>Western Australia—</b>					
Albany .. ..	871	884	896	892	911
Beverley .. ..	873	890	918	963	956
Bridgetown .. ..	918	930	955	973	971
Broome .. ..	1,155	1,142	1,180	1,181	1,184
Bunbury* .. ..	844	845	873	896	931
Carnarvon .. ..	1,008	1,032	1,082	1,127	1,128
Collie .. ..	862	855	901	874	894
Geraldton* .. ..	835	840	960	924	901
Greenbushes .. ..	924	946	960	937	965
Kalgoorlie and Boulder*	994	981	1,006	1,002	1,056
Katanning .. ..	844	829	884	872	904
Leonora and Gwalia ..	1,084	1,094	1,140	1,168	1,172
Meekatharra .. ..	1,047	1,088	1,143	1,164	1,124
Narrogin .. ..	873	863	910	884	918
Northam* .. ..	845	850	910	905	931
Perth and Fremantle* ..	813	813	863	866	888
Wagin .. ..	817	856	924	870	908
York .. ..	802	859	848	867	922
Weighted Average for State (18 Towns) ..	833	835	882	884	907
<b>Tasmania—</b>					
Beaconsfield .. ..	801	818	841	830	912
Burnie* .. ..	821	837	883	906	923
Campbelltown .. ..	814	860	878	872	904
Deloraine .. ..	788	787	795	824	854
Devonport* .. ..	835	824	873	895	936
Franklin .. ..	889	896	868	905	911
Hobart* .. ..	813	797	874	889	891
Launceston* .. ..	786	793	844	870	908
New Norfolk .. ..	822	830	909	891	892
Queenstown* .. ..	913	900	920	922	1,000

\* Information also available monthly for these towns.

## Index-Numbers (200 Towns Series): Food and Groceries—continued.

State and Town.	1934. November.	1935. November.	1936. November.	1937. November.	1938. November.
<b>Tasmania—continued.</b>					
Scottsdale .. ..	770	780	814	829	853
Ulverstone .. ..	815	812	888	867	889
Zeehan .. ..	966	943	981	983	1,001
Weighted Average for State (13 Towns) ..	812	805	867	884	903
<b>Australian Capital Ter- ritory (a)—</b>					
Canberra* .. ..	916	931	949	965	1,026
<b>Weighted Averages—</b>					
Australia (200 Towns) ..	797	825	851	865	906
Thirty Towns .. ..	795	820	847	862	895
Six Capitals .. ..	792	817	843	859	890

\* Information also available monthly for this town.

(a) Not included in Weighted Averages.

3. **Comparison of Capital Cities with other Towns.**—In the preceding pages index-numbers for food and groceries have been given for the six capital cities, for the 30 towns, and for 200 towns. Index-numbers for food, groceries and housing have been given for the six capital cities and the 30 towns on pages 9 to 13. The figures for the six capital cities and the 30 towns are based on monthly prices of food and groceries and the quarterly records of rentals, while the figures for the 200 towns are based on prices in the month of November. In the following table the index-numbers for the three groups of towns have been brought to a common base (November, 1913 = 1000) for the period 1913 to 1938. The table indicates that, since 1913, prices of food and groceries have increased slightly more in the capital cities than in the larger groups of towns, while the increase in house-rents has been more marked in the five towns than in the capital cities. For food, groceries and housing combined, however, the difference between the two sets of index-numbers is only slight.

**Comparative Retail Price Index-Numbers: November of each year.**

(Base of each Section: Weighted Average Cost of each Group, November, 1913 = 1000.)

Particulars.	1913.	1921.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
<b>FOOD AND GROCERIES.</b>								
All Towns (200) .. ..	1,000	1,578	1,241	1,312	1,356	1,400	1,423	1,490
Five Towns in each State ..	1,000	1,577	1,240	1,314	1,355	1,400	1,425	1,479
Capital Cities only .. ..	1,000	1,588	1,248	1,324	1,365	1,410	1,435	1,487
<b>HOUSING (4 AND 5 ROOMS.)</b>								
Five Towns in each State ..	1,000	1,330	1,271	1,297	1,355	1,422	1,465	1,512
Capital Cities only .. ..	1,000	1,323	1,210	1,229	1,282	1,347	1,392	1,438
<b>FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.</b>								
Five Towns in each State ..	1,000	1,487	1,251	1,308	1,356	1,407	1,439	1,496
Capital Cities only .. ..	1,000	1,488	1,233	1,288	1,335	1,386	1,420	1,476

The figures in the vertical columns show the cost in November of each year compared with November, 1913, for "All Towns (200)" "Five Towns in each State," and "Capital Cities only" respectively.

## § 6. Publication of Prices and Price Index-Numbers.

The results of inquiries into price movements are available in the following publications :—

(i) **Monthly.**—A mimeographed statement is published each month giving index-numbers for Food and Groceries. The *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* contains annual, quarterly and monthly index-numbers to the latest available date.

(ii) **Quarterly.**—A mimeographed statement is issued each quarter giving the "C" Series index-numbers. The *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics* contains annual, quarterly and monthly index-numbers to the latest available date. This publication also contains the average prices of the items comprising the Food and Groceries regimen, for each month of the last available quarter, in the 30 towns covered by the investigation. The weighted average rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses in these towns are also shown therein.

(iii) **Annual.**—The Labour Report contains index-numbers over the past five years, and the monthly and quarterly results for the last available year. The average prices for the last year of the items of food and grocery, and average house rents, are also published in this Report. The *Official Year Book* also contains information similar to, but in less detail than that published in the Labour Report.

## § 7. Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, 1920.

The Report of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage is a valuable source of reference for information on retail prices during the years 1914 to 1920. It was also largely responsible for the extension of the prices investigations of the Bureau from food, groceries and housing only to all items of household consumption. The direct use of the Commission's data made in the "All Items" index has already been referred to in earlier sections of this chapter. The Commission was appointed in 1919 to inquire into and report upon the following matters :—

- (i) The actual cost of living at the present time, according to reasonable standards of comfort, including all matters comprised in the ordinary expenditure of a household, for a man with a wife and three children under fourteen years of age, and the several items and amounts which make up that cost.
- (ii) The actual corresponding cost of living during each of the last five years.
- (iii) How the basic wage may be automatically adjusted to the rise and fall from time to time of the purchasing-power of money.

The Commission issued two reports—the first in November, 1920, and the second in April, 1921. These reports show that, according to the standard assumed by the Commission, the cost of living as at the 1st November, 1920, for a family consisting of man, wife, and three children under fourteen years of age, was as follows:—

**Royal Commission on Basic Wage : Cost of Living, 1st November, 1920.**

Particulars.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Rent ..	1 2 0	1 0 6	0 17 0	0 19 6	0 19 0	0 19 0
Food ..	2 6 9	2 6 2	2 3 1	2 7 2	2 4 11	2 8 11
Clothing ..	1 7 0	1 9 0	1 6 0	1 8 3	1 7 9	1 9 2
Miscellaneous ..	1 1 4	1 0 10	1 0 1	1 1 2	1 2 3	0 19 10
<b>Total (a) ..</b>	<b>5 17 1</b>	<b>5 16 6</b>	<b>5 6 2</b>	<b>5 16 1</b>	<b>5 13 11</b>	<b>5 16 11</b>

(a) Weighted Average Six Capitals—£5 15s. 8d.

The corresponding cost of the commodities and services included (which are fully set out in the first Report) for the years 1914 to 1920 was as follows:—

**Royal Commission on Basic Wage : Cost of Living, 1914 to 1920.**

Years.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1914 ..	3 12 11	3 7 9	3 4 0	3 11 2	3 12 9	3 6 9
1915 ..	4 1 6	3 16 9	3 11 3	3 19 0	3 17 1	3 15 1
1916 ..	4 4 6	3 17 5	3 13 10	3 19 7	4 1 2	3 15 6
1917 ..	4 9 8	4 2 2	3 19 3	4 3 2	4 4 2	4 4 10
1918 ..	4 14 8	4 8 10	4 6 0	4 10 11	4 9 2	4 8 6
1919 ..	5 5 3	4 18 5	4 15 10	5 2 6	5 0 9	5 0 4
1920 ..	5 17 1	5 16 6	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

In answer to the third clause of the inquiry, the Commission recommended that “a Bureau of Labour should be organized from existing members of the Public Service, which should ascertain from time to time the rise and fall in the purchasing-power of money in relation to the reasonable standard of comfort for the typical family (i.e., such a family as is described in Clause 1).” After consulting the Commonwealth Statistician as to methods of collection and tabulation, the Government decided that the recommendation would be met by widening the scope of inquiries of this nature already made by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics.

The Commission was concerned principally with ascertaining variations in the cost of an assumed regimen, which is described in the Report as the “Indicator List”. It appeared, however, that the usefulness of the investigations of this Bureau would have been somewhat impaired had they been limited in the manner suggested by the Commission. It was decided, therefore, to apply to a more detailed inquiry the methods of index-number construction already used in the investigations into variations in the cost of food, groceries and housing.

It was decided to adopt for food, groceries and housing the commodities, methods and weighting already in use, which conformed very closely with those given in the "Indicator List" of the Commission. With regard to housing, the Commission adopted a certain type of 5-roomed house as its standard in determining the amount allowed for house rent. The figures used by this Bureau are the rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses, and are not confined to any particular type, but they fairly represent variations in the rent for the type of house described by the Commission.

Previous inquiries by this Bureau had been confined to food, groceries and housing. It became necessary, therefore, to investigate the prices of clothing and miscellaneous items. The results of these investigations are set out in earlier sections of this chapter.

### § 8. Changes in the Regimen.

Since the original compilation of retail price indexes by the Bureau, the regimens of the several Groups and Sections have undergone some modifications. These are briefly explained in the following paragraphs.

(i) *Food and Groceries*.—The regimen for food and groceries was originally introduced in 1912, and the first revision was made in the September quarter of 1932. The regimen in use up to that date will be found on page 13 of Labour Report No. 23. A second revision took place in the September quarter of 1936, as part of the general revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936.\* The main features of this revision are referred to in (iv) below.

(ii) *Housing*.—The housing constituent of the regimen has also been revised. Originally the rentals of all houses from "3 rooms and under" to "8 rooms and over" were tabulated, and they were continuously used in the "A" Series Index from 1912 to 30th June, 1938, when this series was discontinued. They were also used in the "All Items" Index up to and including the year 1924. From the following year rentals of 4 and 5-roomed houses only were used in the "C" series index, and in the same year they were combined with food and groceries to form the "B" series index.

Since the December quarter of 1936, following on the resolutions of the 1936 Conference of Statisticians, the rentals of 4 and 5-roomed houses in certain towns have been collected and tabulated on a somewhat different basis from that previously used. The returns in the twelve more important cities and towns show the rents of individual houses, on the basis of which variations from a pre-determined standard are measured. This standard, the change in which has affected the index-numbers only in respect of the relative levels of rents in the different towns, and in respect of their absolute height, was determined by means of a special investigation of the 1933 Census data relating to rentals of all 4 and 5 roomed wood and brick houses occupied by fully-employed wage and salary-earners. This method not being generally

\* Revisions of collection and compilation methods have occupied a longer period, and are still proceeding. Proper precautions are taken to prevent such revisions from disturbing the essential principle of continuity.



applicable to the circumstances of small country towns, on account of the greater diversity of average "quality" of houses, returns from these centres show the average rent of occupied houses of a defined standard.

(iii) *Clothing and Miscellaneous*.—The regimen for clothing and miscellaneous household requirements was originally introduced in 1921, and the first revision was made in the March quarter of 1935. Details of the original regimen were never published, but the revised regimen of 1935 appeared in Labour Report No. 26. A second revision took place in the September quarter of 1936, as part of the general revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936.\* The main features of this revision are referred to in (iv) below.

(iv) The revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936, was of a comprehensive nature. The Resolutions of the Conference are reprinted in Appendix XI. of Labour Report No. 27.

This Conference not only recommended extensive revisions of the regimen from which the indexes are compiled, but also considered methods of collection and compilation. As a result of its deliberations, and subsequent discussions by correspondence, many improvements and refinements were introduced.

The changes in the regimen were made with a view to improving the index-numbers as measures of price variations. They comprised chiefly the elimination or replacement of articles no longer in demand, or which experience had shown to be unsuitable media for the measurement of price variations; the alteration of units of quantity in certain cases to conform with those in most general use; the adjustment of the mass-unit allotted to certain articles to bring them into accord with present-day consumption habits; and the re-adjustment of the population weights applicable to the several groups and sections of the regimen in accordance with the results of the 1933 Census. Definite grades or qualities were also established for each article in the regimen, to ensure that quotations should be given, as far as possible, for the same article at all times and in all places. Improved methods of collecting and weighting average house rentals were also adopted (see paragraph (ii) above).

(v) Changes of the nature mentioned are commonly made in price indexes without seriously impairing their continuity. In accordance with established principles of procedure in changing the regimen (see Labour Report No. 9, Appendix I., Part II., paragraphs 14 and 18), the general level of the index is taken as determined by the old regimen for the quarter in which the change is made, and the new regimen is used to measure variations in the price-level after that date. The linking up of the index-numbers on the old and the new basis is effected by the usual method of equating the respective weighted aggregate costs of the old and the new regimens in the six capital cities.

While this involves no break of continuity in the index-numbers for the six capital cities as a whole, slight alterations of the relative positions of individual towns are inevitable on account of the alteration of former standards. The effect, however, is more noticeable in the Group index-

\* Revisions of collection and compilation methods have occupied a longer period, and are still proceeding. Proper precautions are taken to prevent such revisions from disturbing the essential principle of continuity.

numbers than in those covering a combination of groups, wherein the losses and gains tend to balance out. Thus, in comparing group index-numbers for individual towns in respect of periods including the dates of change referred to in paragraphs (i) to (iv) above, the following considerations should be kept in mind:—

*Food and groceries.*—These index-numbers are substantially comparable throughout the period up to the June quarter of 1936. From and including the September quarter of 1936, the index-numbers for individual towns are comparable with each other, but are not strictly so with those for previous quarters.

*Rent.*—No change was ever made in the method of calculating the rentals of "All Houses", and consequently these index-numbers were comparable throughout the whole period of their existence.\* In regard to rentals of houses of 4 and 5 rooms, however, the index-numbers for individual towns are comparable with each other up to the June quarter of 1936. In the September quarter, 1936, a change was made in the weighting system which gave rise to slight disparities not due to rental fluctuations, and rendered the index-numbers for individual towns not strictly comparable with those of former periods. The change, however, made the index-numbers for any one town more comparable with those of other towns. In the December quarter of 1936 the rent tabulations in the two principal towns of each State were placed on an entirely new basis, which rendered them incomparable individually with index-numbers of previous periods. This change was also introduced with the object of making the index-numbers for the principal towns more comparable *inter se* in any given quarter.

*Clothing and Miscellaneous.*—The index-numbers for individual towns up to and including 1934 are comparable with those for previous periods. Those for 1935, and the March and June quarters of 1936, are comparable for those periods, but not with the index-numbers of former or subsequent periods. From and including the September quarter of 1936, the index-numbers for individual towns are substantially comparable with each other, both from quarter to quarter and from town to town, but for individual towns they are not strictly continuous with those of previous periods.

## § 9. Retail Price Index-Numbers and Wage Variations.

In view of the fact that several "series" of retail price index-numbers are still associated with the variation of wages, the following short explanation of their significance is given.

It is desirable again to emphasize the fact that the retail price index-numbers compiled by the Bureau are designed to measure the *variations* in the cost of the definite regimen of commodities and services covered by each of the series. The use made of them by wage-fixing tribunals for the purpose of adjusting wage-rates is entirely the responsibility of the tribunals concerned, and not of the Bureau, although the Bureau fully realizes the great importance of the use to which these indexes are put in this connexion, and takes every care to make them as accurate as possible.

\* The tabulation of the "A" Series Index for which these rents were used was discontinued after the issue for June quarter, 1938.

(i) "*A* " *Series*.—The "*A* " series of indexes cover the items food and groceries and the rent of all houses, with the year 1911 as the base (1,000). This series was first compiled in 1912, and is available yearly for the six capital cities from 1901 to 1911, and quarterly for 30 important towns of Australia from 1912 to the June quarter of 1938, after which it was discontinued.

This is the series which the Commonwealth Arbitration Court adopted in 1913 to determine the relative basic wage for towns throughout Australia, and to vary what is popularly known as the "*Harvester* " Basic Wage of 1907—the wage (42s. per week for Melbourne) declared by Mr. Justice Higgins to be sufficient to meet the " normal needs of the average employee, regarded as a human being, living in a civilized community." This series has had very little application since May, 1933, as the result of the adoption by the Court successively of the "*D* " series at that date, the "*C* " series in May, 1934, and the "*Court* " series in July, 1937.

(ii) "*B* " *Series*.—The "*B* " series covers the items food and groceries and rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses, with the prices ruling in the years 1923–1927 as the base (1,000). This series was first compiled in 1925, and is available for the six capital cities for the years 1907 and 1911, and for the month of November of the years 1914 to 1920, and quarterly thereafter for the 30 important towns of Australia. It was designed to replace the "*A* " Series, but up to date has not been used in connexion with the fixation or adjustment of wages by Industrial Tribunals. This series appears on pages 9 to 13 of this Report.

(iii) "*C* " *Series*.—The "*C* " series covers all items of household expenditure, viz., food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; clothing (man, wife and three children); household drapery, household utensils, fuel, lighting and other miscellaneous items, with the prices ruling in the years 1923–1927 as the base (1,000).

This series was introduced as the result of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage of 1920, and the regimen adopted was practically that of the "*Indicator* " Lists of the Commission. It was first compiled in 1921 and is available for the month of November for the six capital cities for the years 1914 to 1921, quarterly for these cities from June quarter, 1922, and quarterly for the 30 important towns from March quarter, 1925 to date.

The series was not used in connexion with the variation of wages until its partial adoption by the Commonwealth Court in May, 1933, when that Court introduced the "*D* " series of indexes (for explanation of which see next page). In its judgment of 17th April, 1934, the Court adopted the "*C* " series as the sole basis for the adjustment of the wages declared in the judgment. In its judgment of 23rd June, 1937, the Commonwealth Court adopted this index as the basis of the "*Court* " series for the adjustment of the "*needs* " portion of the Court's new basic wage (see next page). The Court is, of course, quite free to alter the basis of the "*Court* " series at any time it thinks fit.

This series, covering as it does a far wider range of commodities, displays a different relationship between the towns from that shown in the preceding series ("A" and "B"). The series is published on pages 14 to 24 of this Report.

(iv) *The "Court" Series.*—The "Court" series of index-numbers was created by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in its basic wage judgment of 23rd June, 1937, and operated from 1st July, 1937. Its purpose was to provide a set of index-numbers which would be published by, and under the direct control of, the Court. It was created primarily for the purpose of removing conditions which tended to engender the impression that the Commonwealth Statistician was in some way responsible for the fixation and adjustment of wage-rates. Its introduction has the added advantage of enabling the index-numbers to be specially numbered in the manner most convenient for adjustment purposes, and of enabling the Statistician to change the base of his index-numbers without upsetting the wage and adjustment provisions of the Court's awards. It is at present based on the Commonwealth Statistician's "C" series index, and is obtained as follows:—The "C" series index-number for any town for the quarter in question is multiplied by .081, and the first three figures on the left of the product are taken as the corresponding number in the "Court" series. This number itself states in whole and decimal figures the number of shillings with current purchasing power equivalent to that of 8s. when the "C" series index-number is 1,000. The base of the series is, therefore, the weighted average of the six capital cities, 1923-27 = 8s. The judgment provides that the nearest whole number of shillings (a decimal of .5 or over being regarded as a whole number) shall be taken as the "needs" basic wage, to which will be added the relevant fixed "prosperity loadings" granted by the Court. The "Court" series entirely supersedes the "C" series for all wage adjustments decreed by the Commonwealth Court. A set of index-numbers under this series is reproduced in Appendix III. of this Report.

(v) *"D" Series.*—The "D" series is a combination of the "A" and "C" series, and was introduced by the Commonwealth Court for the adjustment of wages of those-employees who were subject to the full 10 per cent. "cut" imposed by the Court in January, 1931. It came into operation from 1st May, 1933, and was devised in order to counteract the excessive drop in wages occasioned by the "A" series index after 1929.

The series has for its base the "A" series index for each town for the December quarter of 1929, which is varied according to the ratio of change indicated by the "C" series index-number for the whole of 1929 and the corresponding "C" index-number of the town for the quarter for which the adjustment is to be made. It will thus be seen that, whereas the "D" index for each town from the December quarter of 1929 to date fluctuates in the same way as the "C" index for the same town, the relationship of different towns is that of the "A" series for the December quarter of 1929, slightly modified by the difference in movement between the "A" series and the "C" series index for each town since that quarter.

This series has been superseded by the judgment of the Court referred to under "C" series. The index-numbers of this series were published in Appendix VIII. of Labour Reports Nos. 24 to 27.

(vi) *Food and Groceries.*—The regimen of food and groceries is a component part of each of the series of retail price index-numbers mentioned above. Details of the regimen will be found on page 3. This index was first compiled in 1912 and is available yearly for the six capital cities from 1901 to 1911 and monthly for the 30 important towns of Australia from 1912 to date. An index computed from the prices of food and groceries only was for a time used for the adjustment of old-age and invalid pensions, and is still employed for the adjustment of the wages of members of the North Australian Workers' Union above the 20th parallel.

(vii) *The "200 Towns" Series.*—This series is tabulated for the month of November each year in respect of 200 of the more important towns of the Commonwealth. Up to November, 1936 it covered the cost of food and groceries combined with the rent of 4 and of 5-roomed houses respectively, but thereafter the tabulation has been limited to food and groceries only. This table has been used mostly in discussions of suitable relative rates for country towns, but the index-numbers have not been directly employed by Industrial Tribunals in this connexion. The base of this table is the weighted average cost of food and groceries in the six capital cities in 1923-27 = 1,000. This series has been compiled for the month of November since 1913. It was originally confined to 100 towns, but was increased to 150 in 1915, and 200 in 1923. The index-numbers will be found on pages 25 to 30.

(viii) *Relative Merits of Series.*—The relative merits of the various series of index-numbers have been much discussed. Prices of all commodities do not change simultaneously nor to the same degree. Consequently, over short periods there may be differences of some magnitude between the results ascertained from the different series, but over longer periods these differences tend to be much reduced.

Thus, taking the movement of the following retail price indexes for the six capital cities over the two periods 1911 to 1938 and 1929 to 1938, as disclosed by the table in Appendix VIII. of this Report, the changes are substantially of the same order:—

	Increase per cent., 1911-1938.	Decrease per cent., 1929-1938.
Food and Groceries only .. .. .	58 ..	15
Rent of 4 and 5-roomed Houses .. .. .	54 ..	12
Food Groceries and Rent of 4 and 5-roomed Houses (" B " Series) .. .. .	57 ..	14
" All Items " of Household Expenditure (" C " Series) .. .. .	49* ..	13

\* Taken back to 1911 from base 1914 by means of " A " Series Index.

(ix) For information in regard to the different bases upon which the above index-numbers have been compiled, see page 7.

## § 10. International Comparisons: Retail Price Index-Numbers.

The following tables give index-numbers of retail prices for (i) cost of living, including articles other than food, and (ii) foodstuffs only. For the countries included, the prices for the year 1929 are taken as base (= 100). The figures, which have been taken chiefly from the League of Nations *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*, and the International Labour Office *Year Book of Labour Statistics*, show merely the fluctuations in prices in each country, and are obviously not comparable horizontally.

## Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in various Countries.

(Base: Year 1929 = 100.)

## (1) COST OF LIVING.\*

Period.	UNITED KINGDOM.	BELGIUM.	CHINA.	DENMARK.	FINLAND.	FRANCE.	GERMANY.	ITALY.	JAPAN.	NETHERLANDS.
Number of Towns and Localities.	68-509	59	Shanghai.	100	21	Paris.	72	50	Tokio.	Amsterdam.
1932 .. ..	88	84	110	90	84	95	78	83	75	84
1933 .. ..	85	83	99	92	82	94	77	80	80	83
1934 .. ..	86	79	98	96	80	93	79	76	82	83
1935 .. ..	87	80	99	99	81	87	80	77	84	81
1936 .. ..	89	85	105	101	82	91	81	83	88	79
1937 .. ..	94	92	122	104	86	111	81	91	96	82
1938 .. ..	95	94	139	106	88	126	82	98	110	83
1938—										
March Qtr. ..	95	95	143	107	88	124	81	98	104	83
June „ ..	96	93	133	105	87	125	82	98	109	83
Sept. „ ..	95	93	143	106	87	124	82	98	112	83
Dec. „ ..	95	95	138	106	89	130	81	98	116	82
1939—										
March Qtr. ..	94	94	139	106	89	..	82	99	117	82

Period.	NORWAY.	POLAND.	SWEDEN.	SWITZERLAND.	UNITED STATES.	AUSTRALIA.	BRITISH INDIA.	CANADA.	NEW ZEALAND.	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.
Number of Towns and Localities.	31	Warsaw.	49	34	51-174	30	Bombay. (a)	60	25	9
1932 .. ..	90	74	92	86	79	81	..	82	84	90
1933 .. ..	89	67	91	81	76	78	..	79	79	88
1934 .. ..	89	62	91	80	79	80	..	79	81	87
1935 .. ..	91	60	92	80	81	81	100	80	83	88
1936 .. ..	93	58	93	81	85	83	101	81	86	88
1937 .. ..	100	62	95	85	88	85	106	83	92	91
1938 .. ..	103	61	98	85	86	87	106	84	95	94
1938—										
March Qtr. ..	103	61	97	85	87	86	107	84	94	94
June „ ..	103	61	98	85	87	87	105	84	95	94
Sept. „ ..	103	60	98	85	86	88	105	84	95	93
Dec. „ ..	102	60	98	85	86	88	105	84	95	93
1939—										
March Qtr. ..	102	60	99	85	85	89	104	83	96	94

\* With the following exception the index-numbers in the above table are based on the cost of food, housing, clothing and miscellaneous items:—Japan, exclusive of housing. (a) Base: year 1933-34 = 100.

## Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in Various Countries—continued.

(Base: Year 1929 = 100.)

## (II) PRICES OF FOODSTUFFS.

Period.	UNITED KINGDOM.	BELGIUM.	DENMARK.	FINLAND.	FRANCE.	GERMANY.	IRELAND.	ITALY.	JAPAN.	NETHER- LANDS.
Number of Towns and Localities.	68-509	59	100	36 (a)	Paris.	72	105	Milan.	Tokio.	Amster- dam.
1927 ..	104	95	103	..	92	98	101	98	104	100
1928 ..	102	95	102	..	92	98	99	98	100	103
1929 ..	100	100	100	..	100	100	100	100	100	100
1930 ..	94	96	92	..	104	94	95	94	85	93
1931 ..	85	81	79	..	105	84	87	82	74	84
1932 ..	82	69	76	..	94	74	83	78	78	74
1933 ..	78	69	79	..	92	73	78	73	79	74
1934 ..	79	65	85	..	91	76	80	70	81	76
1935 ..	81	67	91	100	83	77	83	72	84	73
1936 ..	84	73	92	99	90	79	87	77	91	74
1937 ..	90	80	95	107	110	79	92	85	95	78
1938 ..	92	82	98	108	126	78	94	92	102	80

Period.	NORWAY	POLAND.	SWEDEN.	SWITZER- LAND.	UNITED STATES.	AUSTRALIA.	BRITISH INDIA.	CANADA.	NEW ZEALAND.	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.
Number of Towns and Localities.	31	War- saw.	49	34	51	30	Bom- bay. (b)	60	25	9.
1927 ..	110	105	101	101	102	96	..	97	97	103
1928 ..	106	103	103	101	98	95	..	98	99	102
1929 ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	..	100	100	100
1930 ..	96	86	93	97	92	90	..	98	96	96
1931 ..	88	76	86	90	75	79	..	77	83	91
1932 ..	85	67	83	80	63	77	..	64	77	83
1933 ..	83	60	81	75	64	72	100	63	72	86
1934 ..	84	54	81	74	71	75	101	69	76	90
1935 ..	87	51	85	73	76	77	103	70	82	88
1936 ..	91	50	89	77	78	79	107	73	86	88
1937 ..	100	56	92	83	81	82	114	77	94	89
1938 ..	104	54	95	83	75	85	113	77	98	93

(a) Base 1935 = 100.

(b) Base 1933 = 100.



## CHAPTER II.—WHOLESALE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

### § 1.—General.

The data on which this chapter is based relate almost entirely to wholesale prices in Melbourne. An index of Sydney wholesale prices is compiled by the Government Statistician of New South Wales, and published in the *Year Book* and the *Monthly Summary of Business Statistics* of that State.

The index of Melbourne wholesale prices was first computed in 1912, and has been continued on the same lines since that year. It was resolved, however, at the Conference of Statisticians at Brisbane in 1930 that the time had come to revise and extend the items included in order to bring the index into line with changed conditions. An investigation to that end was commenced, and in the course of the past few years, many new price-series have been collected on a monthly basis back to January, 1928. Some of these have been incorporated in a new index of the prices of basic materials and foodstuffs, preliminary index-numbers of which are currently published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*. Others are being incorporated in a number of "special-purpose" indexes, which it is hoped to publish shortly. Their construction has been delayed in order to make use, for weighting purposes, of the larger amount of information which is now becoming available as the result of the collection of more extensive statistics of factory production. In the meantime, the original index has been continued on existing lines.

The scope of this wholesale price index can best be understood by an examination of the list of commodities included which is given on page 42. This list is, to a large extent, comparable with that used in the compilation of the *Economist* and *Statist* index-numbers for Great Britain, but differs largely from that used for the wholesale price index-numbers of the United States (Bureau of Labour) or Canada (Department of Labour).

The items included in the (old) Melbourne wholesale price index comprise chiefly basic materials which in the form of raw material, food, or as a source of power, enter into production for home consumption. The purpose of the index, therefore, is to measure the changes in the prices of these particular materials rather than the changes in prices generally. As Australia does not, to any extent, manufacture from imported raw materials commodities for export, the local consumption appears to give the most appropriate weighting. Any lack of uniformity in the variations of the index-numbers for these wholesale prices and for retail prices would indicate broadly changes in the relation of manufacturing and distributing charges to the cost of basic materials.

### § 2.—The Grouping of the Commodities.

The commodities are divided into eight groups, as set out on page 42. The descriptions of the groups are given in the following tables with the proportional cost of each group for the year 1938. These proportions may be used with fair accuracy as "weights" to combine any group index-numbers at the present time, but would give unsatisfactory results if used for a time when prices were relatively much different.



## Groups of Commodities.

Group.	Description.	Percentage of Aggregate Cost (1938).
I.	"Metals and Coal" .. .. .	14
II.	"Wool, Cotton", also jute, leather, &c. ..	11
III.	"Agricultural Produce" .. .. .	30
IV.	"Dairy Produce" .. .. .	9
V.	"Groceries" .. .. .	16
VI.	"Meat" .. .. .	12
VII.	"Building materials" (mostly timber) ..	7
VIII.	"Chemicals" (excluding fertilizers) ..	1

It will be noticed that the group "Chemicals" is practically negligible.

The index relates chiefly to basic materials, but a certain proportion of Australian manufacturing costs enters into all groups. The amount is small in Meat (VI.), Agricultural Produce (III.), and Wool, Cotton (II.), and greater in others, but the difference is not sufficient to justify any inference as to different changes of the price-level for manufactured goods and farm products. The number and weight of manufactured commodities included are too small to warrant deductions of this nature from any possible grouping.

Many of the commodities included are affected by the tariff. Wool, Cotton (II.), Agricultural Produce (III.), and Meat (VI.), are little affected, and Dairy Produce (IV.) not greatly, but in the other groups the tariff is a dominating influence.

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index : Commodities included, Units of Measurement, and "Mass-Units."

Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.	Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.
GROUP I. (Metals and Coal).				GROUP II. (Wool, Cotton, also Jute, Leather, &c.)			
Iron—				Branbags ..	..	doz.	110
Pig ..	Mixed Nos.	ton	6½	Cornsacks ..	..	"	250
Rod and Bar ..	Stafford	"	3½	Woolpacks ..	..	each	200
Angle ..	"	"	3½	Leather—			
Plate ..	"	"	3	Chrome Box ..	..	ft.	1,200
Hoop ..	"	"	½	Hide ..	..	lb.	600
Galvanized ..	26 gauge	"	5	Rough Tanned ..	..	lb.	600
Fencing Wire ..	No. 8	ton	6	—Split ..	..	"	600
Tinned Plates ..	I.C. Coke	box	60	Sole Leather—			
Zinc, sheet ..	..	ton	1	Factory Sides ..	..	"	600
Lead, sheet ..	..	"	½	Cotton ..	Raw ..	"	24,000
" pipes ..	..	"	½	Wool ..	Greasy ..	"	12,200
Copper, sheet ..	..	lb.	2,000	Twine ..	Reaper and Binder ..	"	150
Quicksilver ..	..	"	12	Tallow ..	Mutton Prime	ton	1½
Coal ..	Newcastle, on wharf	ton	600				

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index : Commodities included, Units of Measurement, and "Mass-Units"—continued.

Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.	Commodity.	Quality.	Unit.	Mass Unit.
GROUP III. (Agricultural Produce).				GROUP V.—continued. (Groceries)—continued.			
Wheat .. ..	..	bushel	500	Starch .. ..	Coleman's	lb.	100
Flour .. ..	..	ton	48	Blue .. ..	White	..	..
Bran .. ..	..	"	14	Matches .. ..	Keen's	gross	50
Pollard .. ..	..	"	14	.. ..	Australian	..	90
Oats .. ..	..	bushel	1,200	.. ..	Safety	..	..
Oatmeal .. ..	Milling ..	ton	14	Candles .. ..	Rangoon	lb.	1,600
Barley .. ..	Colonial	bushel	150	Tobacco .. ..	..	..	1,300
.. ..	English	..	100	Kerosene .. ..	..	gallon	1,700
.. ..	Cape ..	"	1,000				
Maize .. ..	..	ton	135	GROUP VI. (Meat).			
Hay .. ..	Best Mngr.	ton	135	Beef .. ..	Average	100 lb.	390
Chaff .. ..	Prime ..	"	25	.. ..	quality	..	..
Straw .. ..	Victorian	bushel	55	Mutton .. ..	..	lb.	33,000
Peas .. ..	..	ton	40	Lamb .. ..	..	..	5,600
Potatoes ..	..	ton	140	Veal .. ..	..	..	2,000
Malt .. ..	Victorian	ton	3	Pork .. ..	..	..	3,700
Onions .. ..	..	ton	3				
GROUP IV. (Dairy Produce).				GROUP VII. (Building Materials).			
Ham .. ..	..	lb.	800	Timber—	Flooring—	100 ft. lin.	30
Bacon .. ..	..	"	3,200	.. ..	6 x 12	..	30
Cheese .. ..	..	"	1,500	.. ..	6 x 12	..	30
Butter .. ..	Best Fresh	"	9,500	.. ..	6 x 12	..	30
Lard .. ..	Bulk ..	doz.	200	.. ..	6 x 12	..	30
Eggs .. ..	Ordinary	lb.	600	.. ..	Weather-	boards	200
Honey .. ..	..	..	40	.. ..	Oregon	1,000 ft. sup.	20
Beeswax ..	..	..	160	.. ..	Shelving	..	10
Condensed Milk	Bacchus Marsh	doz. lb.	160	Cement .. ..	Portland	cask	30
GROUP V. (Groceries).				White Lead ..	..	ton	20
Currants ..	..	lb.	1,400	Slates .. ..	Welsh	1,000	1
Raisins ..	Sultanas	"	1,400	.. ..	20 x 10	..	..
Herrings ..	1-lb. fresh	doz. 1-lb. tins	50	GROUP VIII. (Chemicals).			
Salmon ..	1-lb. tall	"	50	Cream of Tartar	In kegs	lb.	400
.. ..	Alaska	..	..	Bi-Carbonate of Soda	..	ton	1
Sardines ..	Halves	doz. halves	100	Saltpetre ..	Refined	..	1-20
Tea .. ..	..	lb.	3,000	Sulphur ..	..	cwt.	1
Coffee ..	Plantation	"	200	Caustic Soda ..	..	ton	1
Cocoa ..	McKenzie's	"	100	Alum .. ..	Lump ..	lb.	570
Sugar ..	No. 1A	ton	22	Potassium Cyanide	..	..	..
Macaroni ..	..	lb.	200				
Tapioca ..	..	cwt.	7				
Rice .. ..	..	ton	7				
Salt .. ..	Australian fine	"	7				
Salt .. ..	Rock ..	"	1				
Mustard ..	Coleman's	doz. 1-lb. tins	6				

## § 3. Index-Numbers.

Index-numbers for each group of commodities, as well as for all groups combined, are shown in the following table :—

## Melbourne Wholesale Price—Index-Numbers, 1861 to March, 1939.

(Base\* of each Group : Year 1911 = 1,000.)

Period.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Wool, Cotton, Leather, &c.	III. Agricul- tural Pro- duce, &c.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Grocer- ies.	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chemical- s.	All Groups.
1861 ..	1,438	1,381	1,583	1,008	1,963	..	1,070	2,030	1,538
1871 ..	1,096	1,257	1,230	864	1,586	..	1,044	1,409	1,229
1881 ..	1,178	1,115	1,012	935	1,421	..	1,091	1,587	1,121
1891 ..	895	847	1,024	995	1,032	888	780	1,194	945
1901 ..	1,061	774	928	1,029	1,048	1,345	841	917	974
1911 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1914 ..	1,099	1,032	1,207	1,137	1,021	1,507	1,081	1,253	1,149
1915 ..	1,284	1,017	2,162	1,530	1,133	2,435	1,275	1,528	1,604
1916 ..	1,695	1,423	1,208	1,485	1,322	2,515	1,491	1,760	1,504
1917 ..	2,129	2,008	1,157	1,423	1,343	2,403	1,884	2,171	1,662
1918 ..	2,416	2,360	1,444	1,454	1,422	2,385	2,686	3,225	1,934
1919 ..	2,125	2,363	1,985	1,651	1,516	2,348	2,851	2,898	2,055
1920 ..	2,298	2,624	2,439	2,209	1,918	3,279	3,226	2,825	2,480
1921 ..	2,173	1,362	1,767	2,000	1,976	2,158	2,733	2,303	1,903
1922 ..	1,942	1,681	1,628	1,648	1,869	1,787	2,005	1,965	1,758
1923 ..	1,826	2,148	1,778	1,837	1,746	2,579	2,025	1,933	1,944
1924 ..	1,835	2,418	1,647	1,655	1,721	2,223	1,815	1,806	1,885
1925 ..	1,852	1,967	1,797	1,636	1,723	2,212	1,711	1,790	1,844
1926 ..	1,938	1,582	2,001	1,784	1,731	1,931	1,665	1,816	1,832
1927 ..	1,962	1,650	1,826	1,823	1,724	2,111	1,624	1,866	1,817
1928 ..	1,912	1,781	1,726	1,751	1,707	2,015	1,744	1,923	1,792
1929 ..	1,912	1,556	1,792	1,853	1,690	2,246	1,754	1,942	1,803
1930 ..	1,866	1,127	1,484	1,627	1,666	2,025	1,875	1,982	1,596
1931 ..	1,826	1,039	1,121	1,399	1,794	1,508	2,025	2,166	1,428
1932 ..	1,736	1,000	1,230	1,303	1,767	1,348	2,043	2,127	1,411
1933 ..	1,713	1,118	1,175	1,195	1,714	1,487	2,061	2,106	1,409
1934 ..	1,660	1,261	1,288	1,274	1,735	1,540	2,015	2,018	1,471
1935 ..	1,602	1,217	1,344	1,325	1,729	1,508	1,964	1,996	1,469
1936 ..	1,566	1,331	1,480	1,351	1,731	1,684	1,969	1,997	1,543
1937 ..	1,772	1,406	1,604	1,451	1,750	1,678	2,430	2,006	1,656
1938 ..	1,746	1,051	1,789	1,549	1,747	1,871	2,238	2,059	1,662
1937—									
July ..	1,773	1,460	1,666	1,470	1,757	1,790	2,546	2,015	1,703
Aug. ..	1,785	1,398	1,726	1,453	1,745	1,903	2,555	2,031	1,720
Sept. ..	1,818	1,282	1,648	1,475	1,748	2,127	2,510	2,033	1,706
Oct. ..	1,793	1,189	1,648	1,481	1,752	1,940	2,429	2,033	1,664
Nov. ..	1,774	1,105	1,553	1,479	1,756	1,806	2,384	2,033	1,605
Dec. ..	1,762	1,140	1,520	1,494	1,755	1,629	2,360	2,033	1,582
1938									
Jan. ..	1,762	1,097	1,579	1,515	1,751	1,663	2,369	2,049	1,596
Feb. ..	1,754	1,093	1,602	1,520	1,743	1,675	2,344	2,047	1,600
March ..	1,755	1,079	1,590	1,522	1,743	1,755	2,350	2,059	1,603
April ..	1,751	1,054	1,639	1,545	1,754	1,827	2,359	2,059	1,624
May ..	1,730	1,037	1,731	1,570	1,744	1,818	2,299	2,059	1,641
June ..	1,728	1,010	1,753	1,594	1,745	2,005	2,256	2,059	1,661
July ..	1,744	1,054	1,945	1,568	1,746	2,084	2,180	2,063	1,726
Aug. ..	1,743	1,036	1,865	1,550	1,744	2,232	2,167	2,063	1,713
Sept. ..	1,739	1,012	1,789	1,547	1,748	2,178	2,130	2,063	1,680
Oct. ..	1,752	1,044	1,985	1,543	1,746	1,915	2,132	2,063	1,715
Nov. ..	1,749	1,052	1,992	1,552	1,752	1,695	2,134	2,063	1,698
Dec. ..	1,744	1,049	1,995	1,557	1,752	1,605	2,137	2,063	1,689
1939									
Jan. ..	1,759	1,055	2,003	1,561	1,746	1,576	2,137	2,063	1,690
Feb. ..	1,718	1,066	2,071	1,591	1,750	1,616	2,150	2,063	1,714
Mar. ..	1,753	1,073	2,062	1,573	1,736	2,112	2,145	2,063	1,764

NOTE.—The figures given in this table are comparable in the vertical columns, but are not directly comparable horizontally.

### § 4. Variations since 1914.

The variations in the index-numbers of the separate commodity groups for the years 1915 to 1938, and for each month from January, 1938, to June, 1939, are shown in the following table, taking July, 1914 as base (= 1,000) for each group :—

#### Melbourne Wholesale Price Index-Numbers.

(Base of each Group : July, 1914 = 1,000.)

Period.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Wool, Cotton, Leather, &c.	III. Agri- cultural Produce, &c.	IV. Dairy Pro- duce.	V. Gro- ceries.	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chem- icals.	All Groups
July, 1914 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Year 1915 ..	1,166	934	2,024	1,272	1,098	1,502	1,164	1,490	1,406
" 1916 ..	1,539	1,307	1,130	1,235	1,266	1,551	1,361	1,716	1,318
" 1917 ..	1,919	1,841	1,084	1,181	1,302	1,480	1,722	2,141	1,456
" 1918 ..	2,197	2,324	1,351	1,210	1,378	1,469	2,448	3,085	1,695
" 1919 ..	1,930	2,169	1,858	1,373	1,469	1,448	2,602	2,827	1,801
" 1920 ..	2,091	2,430	2,228	1,840	1,860	2,022	2,944	2,764	2,178
" 1921 ..	1,974	1,250	1,653	1,663	1,916	1,331	2,495	2,246	1,668
" 1922 ..	1,763	1,543	1,523	1,370	1,811	1,102	1,830	1,917	1,541
" 1923 ..	1,658	1,972	1,664	1,527	1,693	1,590	1,848	1,885	1,704
" 1924 ..	1,667	2,220	1,541	1,376	1,668	1,371	1,656	1,761	1,653
" 1925 ..	1,682	1,806	1,681	1,360	1,670	1,364	1,562	1,746	1,617
" 1926 ..	1,760	1,453	1,873	1,483	1,677	1,191	1,519	1,771	1,606
" 1927 ..	1,782	1,515	1,709	1,516	1,671	1,302	1,482	1,820	1,593
" 1928 ..	1,737	1,635	1,661	1,456	1,654	1,242	1,590	1,876	1,571
" 1929 ..	1,737	1,428	1,677	1,540	1,638	1,385	1,601	1,895	1,581
" 1930 ..	1,695	1,035	1,389	1,353	1,614	1,249	1,712	1,933	1,399
" 1931 ..	1,659	954	1,049	1,103	1,738	930	1,840	2,112	1,252
" 1932 ..	1,577	918	1,152	1,083	1,712	831	1,865	2,074	1,237
" 1933 ..	1,556	1,026	1,100	994	1,661	917	1,882	2,054	1,235
" 1934 ..	1,508	1,158	1,205	1,059	1,682	950	1,839	1,968	1,290
" 1935 ..	1,456	1,116	1,258	1,100	1,677	931	1,792	1,946	1,288
" 1936 ..	1,422	1,222	1,385	1,123	1,678	1,038	1,798	1,948	1,353
" 1937 ..	1,609	1,291	1,502	1,206	1,696	1,035	2,219	1,957	1,452
" 1938 ..	1,586	965	1,674	1,287	1,693	1,154	2,043	2,008	1,457
1938—									
January ..	1,600	1,007	1,478	1,259	1,697	1,025	2,163	1,998	1,399
February ..	1,593	1,004	1,500	1,263	1,689	1,033	2,139	1,997	1,403
March ..	1,594	990	1,488	1,266	1,689	1,082	2,145	2,008	1,405
April ..	1,590	967	1,534	1,285	1,700	1,126	2,154	2,008	1,423
May ..	1,571	952	1,620	1,305	1,690	1,121	2,099	2,008	1,438
June ..	1,569	927	1,641	1,325	1,691	1,236	2,050	2,008	1,456
July ..	1,584	968	1,820	1,304	1,692	1,285	1,990	2,012	1,513
August ..	1,583	951	1,745	1,288	1,691	1,377	1,978	2,012	1,502
September ..	1,579	929	1,674	1,286	1,694	1,343	1,944	2,012	1,472
October ..	1,591	959	1,858	1,283	1,692	1,181	1,946	2,012	1,503
November ..	1,588	966	1,865	1,291	1,698	1,045	1,948	2,012	1,488
December ..	1,584	963	1,867	1,294	1,698	990	1,951	2,012	1,480
1939—									
January ..	1,597	969	1,875	1,298	1,662	972	1,951	2,012	1,482
February ..	1,560	979	1,939	1,323	1,666	996	1,962	2,012	1,502
March ..	1,592	985	1,930	1,308	1,682	1,302	1,958	2,012	1,546
April ..	1,590	948	1,698	1,336	1,687	1,314	1,956	2,012	1,484
May ..	1,590	894	1,610	1,355	1,678	1,062	1,959	2,012	1,416
June ..	1,588	940	1,580	1,322	1,694	1,051	1,921	2,032	1,410

### § 5. Prices of Commodities, 1937 and 1938.

In Section IV. of the Appendix, details are given of the average wholesale prices of the particular grades of commodities used in computing the index-numbers in the years 1937 and 1938. Corresponding information for previous years was given in the Appendixes to preceding Reports. In Report No. 1 (1912), prices are given for each year from 1871 to 1911.

### § 6. International Comparisons: Wholesale Price Index-Numbers.

The following table gives index-numbers of wholesale prices in the years 1932 to 1939 for Australia and other countries, the prices in each country for the year 1929 being taken as base (= 100). The figures, which have been taken chiefly from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* published by the League of Nations, show merely the fluctuations in prices in each country, and are obviously not comparable horizontally.

#### Wholesale Price Index-Numbers : Principal Countries.

(Base : Year 1929 = 100.)

Period.	UNITED KINGDOM.			BELGIUM.	BRITISH INDIA (CALCUTTA).	CHINA (SHANGHAI).	DENMARK.	DUTCH EAST INDIES.	EGYPT (CAIRO).	FINLAND.	FRANCE.	GERMANY.
	Board of Trade.	" Statist. "	" Economist. "	Official.	Official.	National Tariff Commission.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.
1932 ..	75	71	68	63	65	108	78	57	72	(a)	68	70
1933 ..	75	70	68	59	62	99	83	49	61	..	64	68
1934 ..	77	72	71	56	63	93	90	46	75	..	60	72
1935 ..	78	74	74	63	65	92	92	45	82	100	54	74
1936 ..	83	78	79	69	65	104	98	46	73	103	66	76
1937 ..	95	90	89	80	72	124	110	61	76	122	93	77
1938 ..	89	86	78	74	68	146	104	57	79	114	104	77
1938 VI. ..	88	80	78	74	67	139	103	57	79	112	105	77
VII. ..	88	80	78	73	67	146	103	57	79	112	104	77
VIII. ..	87	78	76	73	67	158	102	57	78	111	104	77
IX. ..	86	78	76	73	67	158	102	56	79	111	104	77
X. ..	87	78	76	73	67	160	103	56	82	111	106	77
XI. ..	86	77	74	72	67	160	102	56	81	112	108	77
XII. ..	86	78	75	71	67	160	102	55	79	113	109	78
1939 I. ..	85	78	74	71	67	162	102	55	78	113	110	78
II. ..	85	78	75	70	69	166	102	56	78	113	109	78

Period.	ITALY.	JAPAN.	NETHERLANDS.	NORWAY.	POLAND.	SWEDEN.	SWITZERLAND.	UNITED STATES.	AUSTRALIA.	CANADA.	NEW ZEALAND.	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.
	National Index.	Bank of Japan.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Bureau of Labour Statistics.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.
1932 ..	73	73	65	82	68	78	68	68	78	70	87	79
1933 ..	67	82	63	82	61	76	65	69	78	70	88	80
1934 ..	65	81	63	83	58	81	64	79	82	75	89	88
1935 ..	71	84	62	85	55	83	64	84	82	75	93	82
1936 ..	80	90	64	90	56	86	68	85	86	78	94	85
1937 ..	93	108	76	105	62	98	79	91	92	88	102	87
1938 ..	100	114	72	103	58	93	76	83	92	82	102	90
1938 VI. ..	100	116	72	103	59	93	76	82	92	84	102	..
VII. ..	100	116	72	103	59	93	75	83	96	82	102	..
VIII. ..	101	115	71	102	57	92	75	82	95	80	102	..
IX. ..	102	115	71	101	57	91	75	82	93	78	102	..
X. ..	102	115	71	101	57	91	75	81	95	78	102	..
XI. ..	102	116	70	101	57	91	75	81	94	77	102	..
XII. ..	101	116	71	101	57	91	75	81	94	77	104	..
1939 I. ..	102	120	70	99	57	91	75	81	94	77	104	..
II. ..	102	121	70	99	57	91	75	81	95	77	104	..

(a) Base : Year 1935 = 100.

## CHAPTER III.—WAGES.

## § 1. Operations Under Arbitration and Wages Board Acts and Industrial Legislation.

1. **General.**—Particulars regarding operations under the Commonwealth and State Acts for the regulation of wages and hours and conditions of labour were first compiled for the year 1913, and reviews to the end of each annual period appear in previous issues of the Labour Report and in the Quarterly Summaries of Australian Statistics.

2. **Acts Regulating Industrial Matters.**—The Acts in force regulating rates of wage, hours of labour, and working conditions generally in both Commonwealth and State jurisdictions are as follows:—

## COMMONWEALTH.

Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904–1934.

Arbitration (Public Service) Act 1920–1934.

Industrial Board Ordinance, 1936–1938 (Australian Capital Territory).

## STATES.

New South Wales .. Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1938.

Victoria .. Factories and Shops Act 1928–1938.

Queensland .. Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1932–1938.

South Australia .. The Industrial Code 1920–1937.

Western Australia .. Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1937.

Tasmania .. Wages Board Act 1920–1938.

3. **Methods of Administration.**—(i) **COMMONWEALTH.**—The Commonwealth authority consists of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, consisting of a Chief Judge and four\* other Judges; Conciliation Commissioners not exceeding three in number; and Conciliation Committees† for particular industries. The Commonwealth Act provides that, where a State Award or Determination is inconsistent with an award issued by the Commonwealth Authority, the latter shall prevail. The Commonwealth Court can also restrain a State authority from proceeding in a matter already covered, or being dealt with, by the Commonwealth Authority. The Commonwealth Arbitration Court began to function in 1905.

The affairs of the Commonwealth Public Service are regulated by the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator, under powers conferred by the Arbitration (Public Service) Act 1920–1934. The system of arbitration commenced to operate in 1912, cases being heard by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, as part of the ordinary work of that Court. From 1920, however, the control was transferred to the Arbitrator, who was appointed by the Government for a term of seven years, and who need not necessarily have legal qualifications. No appeal lies against a determination of the Arbitrator, but the Government can move the Parliament to exercise its right of veto when the instrument is brought before it for ratification.

(ii) **STATES**—(a) *New South Wales.*—The controlling authority is the Industrial Commission of New South Wales consisting of five Judges; a Conciliation Commissioner and an Additional Conciliation Commissioner; and Conciliation Committees constituted for particular industries. The latter two authorities may make awards binding on industries, but an appeal

\* One Judge has been acting in Bankruptcy jurisdiction for several years.

† Held by the High Court in 1930 to be invalid.

to the Industrial Commission may be made against any award. Compulsory control commenced in 1901, after the earlier Acts of 1892 and 1899 providing for voluntary submission of matters in dispute had proved abortive.

(b) *Victoria*.—The authority consists of Wages Boards for separate industries and a Court of Industrial Appeals, the latter presided over by a Judge of the Supreme Court. The system was instituted in the State in 1896, and represents the first instance in Australia of legal regulation in this sphere.

(c) *Queensland*.—The authority is the Industrial Court, consisting of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two members appointed by the Governor in Council. Legal control was first instituted in 1907 with the passing of the Wages Board Act.

(d) *South Australia*.—The principal tribunal is called the Industrial Court; there are also Industrial Boards for the various industries, and a Board of Industry. The Court is composed of the President (a person eligible for appointment as a Judge of the Supreme Court) who may be joined by two assessors who must be employed in the industry concerned. Deputy Presidents may also be appointed. The "Living Wage" is declared by the Board of Industry, composed of the President or Deputy President of the Industrial Court and four Commissioners. Legal control was first instituted in 1900.

(e) *Western Australia*.—The system of control comprises an Arbitration Court, Industrial Boards, Conciliation Committees and Commissioners. The Court consists of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two members. Legal control dates back to 1900.

(f) *Tasmania*.—The authority consists of Wages Boards for separate industries, comprising a Chairman, appointed by the Governor, and equal numbers of representatives of employers and workers, appointed by the Minister administering the Act. The system was instituted in 1910.

**4. Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed.**—The following table shows the number of awards and determinations made and industrial agreements filed, excluding variations, in each State and under the Commonwealth legislation dealing with these matters during each of the years 1934 to 1938.

**Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed.**

State.	1934.		1935.		1936.		1937.		1938.	
	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.
New South Wales ..	55	22	44	31	52	39	63	42	64	38
Victoria ..	90	..	101	..	141	..	121	..	99	..
Queensland ..	32	25	46	22	61	37	46	42	38	38
South Australia ..	19	3	69	9	22	17	42	16	6	4
Western Australia ..	12	11	17	24	24	26	35	32	28	31
Tasmania ..	7	1	18	..	22	..	43	..	26	..
Commonwealth Court ..	24	4	69	13	32	13	38	11	31	13
Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator ..	..	..	4	..	2	..	3	..	3	..
Total ..	239	66	368	99	356	132	391	143	295	124



The figures in the above table exclude variations and interpretations of principal awards and agreements, of which a considerable number are made each year. The variations made by the State and the Commonwealth Courts, Wages and Industrial Boards, and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator numbered 1,861 in 1938 compared with 1,717 in 1937, and were distributed as follows:—New South Wales, 1,322; Queensland, 345; South Australia, 7; Western Australia, 11; Commonwealth Court, 145, and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator, 31. In Victoria and Tasmania any alteration in the determination of a Wages Board is incorporated with the existing determination, and a new determination issued which wholly repeals the old one.

The registration of industrial agreements is not provided for under the State Act in force in Victoria, but agreements filed under the provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act are in operation within the State.

**5. Awards, Determinations, and Agreements in Force.**—Considerable extension of the principle of the fixation of legal minimum and marginal rates of wages and of working conditions has taken place during the period under review. The number of industrial awards and determinations in force throughout Australia at the 31st December, 1938, was 1,637, and the industrial agreements filed at the same date numbered 696. Including the operations under the Commonwealth Arbitration Acts the number of awards or determinations and industrial agreements in force increased by 1,062 and 295 respectively over the number in force at the 31st December, 1913.

With reference to the number of industrial awards and registered industrial agreements in force at the end of any period, awards and determinations made by both State and Commonwealth tribunals generally continue in force after the term of operation mentioned therein has expired, until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent order or award. Section 28 (2) of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that, after the expiration of the period specified, the award shall, unless the Court otherwise orders, continue in force until a new award has been made; provided that, where in pursuance of this sub-section an award has continued in force after the expiration of the period specified in the award, any award made by the Court for the settlement of a new industrial dispute between the parties may, if the Court so orders, be made retrospective to a date not earlier than the date upon which the Court first had cognizance of that dispute. In the Industrial Code of South Australia, Section 47 (2), and in legislation for other States, similar provisions are in force. All industrial agreements, with the exception of those made under the provisions of the Tasmanian Act, continue in force after the expiration of the term mentioned until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent agreement or order. The Tasmanian agreements have no legal effect after the term of operation has expired, unless and until revived by a subsequent agreement.

The provisions in the Commonwealth and State Industrial Acts that awards and agreements shall remain in force until they have been superseded or rescinded occasion some difficulty when the compilation of a list of awards, determinations and agreements actually operative is undertaken, as the specified periods in many cases have expired. This difficulty applies not only to State awards and determinations but also to awards of the Commonwealth Court. Awards, determinations and industrial agreements regarding which definite information as to supersession or rescission is not readily

ascertainable are included in these records; but, in cases where it could be definitely claimed that an award, determination or agreement was out of date and the terms were not actually in operation, they have not been included in the records as at 31st December, 1938.

The above account may be accepted as a brief explanation in general terms of the currency of awards and agreements. There are exceptions in certain cases, but they are infrequent.

**Particulars of Boards and of Awards, Determinations and Industrial Agreements in Force.**

Dates.	Boards Authorized.	Boards which had made Awards or Determinations.	Awards or Determinations in Force.(a)	Industrial Agreements in Force.
31st December, 1913 .. ..	505	386 (b)	575 (c)	401
" " 1915 .. ..	573	498	663	546
" " 1925 .. ..	575	524	1,181	607
" " 1934 .. ..	655	581	1,405	605
" " 1935 .. ..	660	583	1,457	620
" " 1936 .. ..	660	583	1,443	611
" " 1937 .. ..	660	583	1,568	655
" " 1938 .. ..	678	610	1,637	696

(a) Including awards made by Arbitration Courts and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator.

(b) Owing to the fact that a number of awards under the New South Wales Industrial Disputes Act (1908) were still in force, the Boards constituted for such industries under the Industrial Arbitration Act (1912) had not made any awards.

(c) Excluding awards or determinations which expired in New South Wales (under the Act of 1908) on 31st December, 1913.

The following table shows the number of Industrial and Wages Boards authorized, and the number of awards, determinations and industrial agreements in force at 31st December, 1913 and 1938:—

**Industrial and Wages Boards Authorized, and Industrial Awards, Determinations, and Agreements in Force.**

Particulars.	At 31st Dec.	Commonwealth.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
		Court.	Pub. Ser. Arb.							
<b>Industrial and Wages—</b>										
Boards authorized ..	{ 1913 .. ..	..	..	216	135	75	56	..	23	505
	{ 1938 .. ..	..	..	(a) 323	193	..	76	29	57	678
Boards which have made determinations	{ 1913 .. ..	..	..	123	123	74	47	..	19	386
	{ 1938 .. ..	..	..	(b) 280	186	..	65	24	55	610
<b>Awards and Determinations—</b>										
In force .. ..	{ 1913 .. ..	17	..	265	127	73	54	18	21	575
	{ 1938 .. ..	235	51	553	191	261	120	166	60	1,637
<b>Industrial Agreements—</b>										
In force .. ..	{ 1913 .. ..	228	..	75	..	5	11	82	..	401
	{ 1938 .. ..	180	..	151	..	124	44	187	10	696
<b>Commonwealth Court Awards—</b>										
Number in force in each State ..	{ 1913 .. ..	..	..	13	17	15	16	9	13	..
	{ 1938 .. ..	..	..	157	180	59	133	50	100	..
<b>Commonwealth Agreements—</b>										
Number in force in each State ..	{ 1913 .. ..	..	..	132	129	68	62	57	61	..
	{ 1938 .. ..	..	..	49	80	31	98	42	80	..
<b>Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator—</b>										
Number of Determinations in force in each State ..	1938 .. ..	..	..	45	41	35	38	35	34	..

(a) Under Industrial Arbitration Act 1926, Conciliation Committees have been appointed, and at the end of 1938, 307 Committees were in operation.

(b) Includes 14 Demarcation Boards.

6. **New Legislation and Special Reports.**—Information concerning the main provisions of the various Industrial Acts in force throughout the Commonwealth was given in earlier Reports, and brief reviews are furnished each year respecting new industrial legislation, as well as details respecting noteworthy pronouncements or procedure by industrial tribunals, and any special application or conditions of the terms of awards or determinations. In this Report, brief particulars are given regarding new industrial legislation and special reports and tribunals connected with industrial matters during the year 1938 :—

(i) *Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Court.*—The number of awards made by the Commonwealth Court during 1938 was 31, and 13 industrial agreements were filed under the provisions of the Act. Among the industries and occupations for which awards were made during the year were :—Glue and gelatine workers, New South Wales and Victoria ; furnishing trades, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania ; clothing trades, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia ; metalliferous mining, Victoria and Tasmania ; fruit-growing, New South Wales and Victoria ; aircraft manufacturing, all States except Tasmania ; pastoral workers, all States except Queensland ; journalists, all States ; rubber workers, New South Wales and Victoria ; stonemasons, Victoria and South Australia ; electrical trades, Victoria and South Australia ; trustee company officers, Queensland ; radio employees, all States except Western Australia ; road construction, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania ; bank officials, Victoria and Tasmania.

Industrial agreements covering the undermentioned industries were also made during the year :—Meat industry, Tasmania ; local government, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Tasmania ; shipping, New South Wales ; gas manufacture, South Australia ; electricity production, South Australia ; public entertainment, all States.

A full description of the considerations which led to the reduction by 10 per cent. as from 1st February, 1931, of all wages controlled by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and the refusal of the Court in June, 1932 and May, 1933 to restore the "cut", appeared in earlier issues of the Report (see Labour Reports Nos. 22, pp. 45-48 and 23, pp. 45-46).

The 10 per cent. "cut" was removed by the Court as from the first pay period in May, 1934, as the result of a judgment delivered 17th April. At the same time the Court abandoned the former "Harvester" standard, and replaced it by a standard established by the New South Wales Board of Trade in 1925 and brought up-to-date by means of the "All Items" ("C" series)-index-numbers of this Bureau. A full account of the judgment appeared on pp. 76-82 of Report No. 26.

In May, 1937, the Court heard a claim by the combined unions for an increase in the basic wage, details of which will be found on page 76 of this Report.

During the year the Commonwealth Parliament passed the National Health and Pensions Insurance Act, the National Health and Pensions Insurance (Employees' Contributions) Act, and the National Health and Pensions Insurance (Employers' Contributions) Act. These were assented to on the 5th July, 1938, and provided for insurance against certain contingencies affecting employees and their wives, children, widows, and orphans of employees and for other purposes. Subsequently by the National Health and Pensions Insurance Act 1939, assented to on the 20th June, 1939, the proclamations fixing the dates of commencement of the provisions of the Acts other than the provisions of Parts I. (Preliminary) and II.

Administration), Division 1 of Part VII. (Approved Societies : Constitution and Membership) and Section 192 (providing for the making of regulations) of the National Health and Pensions Insurance Act 1938 were annulled and the new legislation provides that the power of proclamation is not to be exercised until a resolution approving the exercise of the powers has been passed by both Houses of Parliament.

(ii) *New South Wales*.—During the year 1938 the number of Conciliation Committees established under the Industrial Act was 16, the number which expired, were dissolved or were no longer operative was 8, and at the end of the year 307 Committees were in force. In addition, 323 Industrial Boards constituted under the Act were in force, but no awards were issued by these Boards, the work previously performed by them being undertaken mainly by the Conciliation Committees. Principal awards published by the Industrial Commission numbered 26, by Conciliation Committees, 35, and by Apprenticeship Councils, 3. The number of subsidiary awards and variations issued during the year was 1,322, of which 51 were made by the Industrial Commission, 86 by Conciliation Committees, 6 by Apprenticeship Councils and 1,179 by the Industrial Registrar. At the end of the year principal awards in force numbered 553, and industrial agreements, 151.

Declarations of the Basic Wage made by the Industrial Commission will be found on page 79.

The Industrial Arbitration and Workers' Compensation (Amendment) Act 1938, which was passed during the year, provides *inter alia*, for an increase in the membership of the Industrial Commission from four to "not less than five and not more than six." The Minister in charge of the Bill stated that the increase in membership was necessary in order to deal with the business before the Commission and to carry out inquiries into prices and rents which the Government proposed to refer to it. The Commission is specially empowered to investigate and report on any matter referred to it by the Minister concerning prices of commodities, or services, or rents, or increases in rents of premises used as dwelling houses or as shops, or as both.

(iii) *Victoria*.—Wages Boards made 154 determinations during the year, the number including determinations which were reviewed more than once during the twelve months. At 31st December, 1938, 191 determinations were considered to be legally in force.

An amendment of the Factories and Shops Act (No. 4461 of 1936) provided *inter alia* for the incorporation in all determinations of Wages Boards, so far as they do not conflict with State law, of the provisions of Commonwealth Arbitration Court awards for corresponding industries.

Industrial legislation passed during the year included the Factories and Shops Act 1938 relating to the closing of shops for the sale of motor spirit, oil, or accessories, and the carting of goods, and the Apprenticeship Act 1938 providing for allowance to apprentices in certain trades of time off in consideration of attendance at classes.

(iv) *Queensland*.—Thirty-eight industrial awards were made during the year, all of which were awards of the Industrial Court. The number of industrial agreements filed was 38, and variations of awards numbered 345. At the end of the year, 261 awards and 124 industrial agreements were in force.

On page 81 will be found particulars of variations in the basic wage determined by the Industrial Court.

The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Acts and Other Acts Amendment Act of 1938 was passed during the year.

(v) *South Australia*.—The Industrial Court made seven awards during the year but no determinations were made by Industrial Boards. Four industrial agreements were filed. The number of awards and determinations varied by the Court or Industrial Boards was 7.

At the end of the year 120 awards and determinations and 44 industrial agreements were in force.

Particulars of variations in the "Living Wage" determined by the Board of Industry will be found on page 82.

No legislation of industrial interest was passed in 1938.

(vi) *Western Australia*.—During the year, the Industrial Court made ten awards, and eighteen awards were made by various Industrial Boards. Thirty-three industrial agreements were filed under the provisions of the State Act during 1938. Eleven awards and six industrial agreements were varied. At the end of the year there were 166 awards and 187 agreements in force.

Declarations of the basic wage made by the Industrial Court are referred to on page 83.

No legislation of industrial interest was passed during 1938.

(vii) *Tasmania*.—During the year, Wages Boards made twenty-six determinations, but no industrial agreement under the State Act was filed. Among the industries and callings covered by the determinations made were the following:—Quarrymen; furniture trade; butchers; butter and cheese makers; coal-mining; motor garage employees; brickmaking and timber working.

The Wages Board Act in force in Tasmania provides for the inclusion of a clause in the determination for the automatic adjustment of rates of wage according to the increase or decrease in the retail price index-number. The inclusion or otherwise of this provision is decided by the Wages Boards, and a number of determinations issued embody the clause for automatic adjustment. Among the Wages Boards which have adopted this system of wage adjustment may be mentioned the following:—Bakers; builders and painters; carriers; mechanical engineering and foundries; electrolytic zinc; fuel merchants; jam makers; motor garage; printers; produce stores; rubber trade; tanners; textile workers; and wholesale grocers.

At the end of the year 60 determinations and 10 industrial agreements filed under the State Act were in force.

The only Act of industrial interest passed during the year under review was the Wages Boards Act, 1938, in regard to apprenticeship.

(viii) *Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator*.—During 1938, the Arbitrator made three new determinations and varied 28 existing determinations.

(ix) *Australian Capital Territory*.—The regulation of industrial matters in the Territory under a local Industrial Board commenced in the year 1922.

In accordance with the Industrial Board Ordinance 1936-38 the Board now consists of a Chairman and four members and is constituted from time to time as follows:—

- (a) Where the matter for determination is one affecting Commonwealth employees and private employees—the Chairman and the four other members:

(b) Where the matter for determination is one affecting Commonwealth employees—the Chairman, the member representing the Commonwealth, the member representing the Commonwealth employees; and where the matter for determination is one affecting private employees—the Chairman, the member representing the private employers and the member representing the private employees; provided that where the matter for determination is—

(i) the making of a common rule; or

(ii) the determination or variation of the basic wage or standard hours of work;

the Chairman, may, at any stage of the proceedings, order that matter be referred to the full Board for determination.

Provision was originally made only for the regulation by the Industrial Board of the wages and working conditions of Government employees, and for those working on Government contracts. By an amending Ordinance, dated 9th April, 1936, workers in outside industry were similarly brought under the control of the Board and Determinations have since been made covering the majority of occupations in private enterprise.

Provision for the automatic adjustment of wages according to the retail price variations shown by the "A" Series Index-Numbers was made in the Determination operative from 1st July, 1936. The adjustment operating from the 1st November, 1939 provides a weekly wage of 92s. 6d. for an unskilled labourer.\*

## § 2. Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour.

1. **General.**—The collection of data respecting the nominal rates of wage payable in different callings and in occupations in various industries carried on in each State was first undertaken by this Bureau in the early part of the year 1913. Owing to the difficulty of ascertaining reliable particulars of the numbers of apprentices, improvers and other juvenile workers to whom progressive rates of wage fixed according to increasing age or experience were payable from year to year, the inquiry was confined to the rates of wage payable to adult workers only, and was further limited generally to those industries in operation within the metropolitan area of each State. In order to make the inquiry comprehensive, however, certain industries were included which were not carried on in the capital cities, e.g., mining, shipping, agriculture, and pastoral. The particulars acquired were obtained primarily from awards, determinations and industrial agreements under Commonwealth and State Acts, and related to the minimum wage prescribed. In cases where no award, determination or agreement was in force, the ruling union or predominant rate of wage was ascertained from employers and secretaries of trade unions. For convenience of comparison weekly rates of wage were adopted. In many instances, however, the wages were based on daily or hourly rates, since in many industries and occupations in which employment is casual or intermittent wages are so fixed; hence the average weekly earnings in such occupations will probably fall considerably short of the computed weekly rates. The information thus obtained referred to the weekly rate of wage in upwards of 400 specific occupations. Rates of wage were not of course available for each of these occupations in every State but the aggregate collection for the six States amounted to 1,569 male occupations or callings. These particulars furnished the necessary data for the computation of average rates of wage in various

\* An "A" series index-number for Canberra is specially compiled for the purposes of these adjustments.



industrial groups,\* and in each State and Australia as a whole. The average rate of wage for each industrial group in each State was computed by taking the arithmetical average† of the rates of wage payable for all classified occupations within that group. It is not claimed that the results obtained by this method are precisely correct, but, owing to the difficulty in the past of obtaining satisfactory data as to the number of persons engaged in each of the occupations for which rates of wage had been obtained, no detailed system of weights could be applied. Though a considerable amount of information as to the number of persons engaged in different industries and occupations was available from subsequent Census results, it was found impracticable to bring the classification of these results into line with the detailed classification of occupations in the various industries as set out in the awards and determinations. For final results for each State and for each industrial group throughout the States, however, a careful system of weighting according to industrial groups was adopted. For example, in computing the result for any State in any year, the computed average wage in each industrial group was multiplied by a number (weight) representing the relative number of all male workers engaged in that group of industries in the particular State. The sum of the products thus obtained, divided by the sum of the weights, represents the average wage for that State for the particular year. The weights used for each industrial group in the computations of the average wage for male and female occupations have been published in previous issues of the Labour Report.

The results thus ascertained for the year 1913 were published in Labour Report No. 2, pp. 28-43. In the early part of the year 1914, the scope of the inquiry was considerably extended, and particulars of the weekly rates of wage in respect of 930 specific occupations and the aggregate collection for the six States amounted to 4,256 adult occupations (3,948 male, and 308 female). The results obtained thereby to the 30th April, 1914, were published in Labour Report No. 5, pp. 44-50. These results were further analysed, and the average number of working hours which constituted a full week's work in each occupation was ascertained and weighted in a similar manner to the rates of wage. This course was adopted in order to overcome the difficulty of making comparisons between States of the rates of wage in any specified occupation, since, in many instances, a different number of working hours constituted a full week's work in different States. By dividing the weighted average number of working hours into the weighted average weekly rate of wage, a more satisfactory standard of comparison was ascertained. Results obtained from these computations were given for each industrial group for each State.

Since the 30th April, 1914, the number of occupations included in comparative computations has been kept constant, but the particulars of wages given in the Appendix (Sections V. and VI.) to this Report include all the more important occupations. In most instances these have been taken from awards or determinations made by industrial tribunals, from agreements registered under Commonwealth or State Acts, or were obtained by direct inquiry.

To supplement the results thus obtained, investigations were made regarding rates of wage in past years with a view to showing their general trend in each State and in the several industrial groups. The total number of occupations for which particulars were available back to 1891 was 652. The particulars given in this Chapter show variations in nominal wages from year to year in each State and in various industrial groups. Index-numbers are also given showing variations in effective wages in each State.

\* The adopted classification of industries is shown on page ii.

† The sum of the weekly rates of wage divided by the number of occupations included.



An investigation is at present in progress with a view to improving the weighting system used in these computations.

**2. Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1914–1938.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage payable to adult male workers at the dates specified for a full week's work in each State and for Australia. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000) :—

**Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, States.**

*Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.*

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aus- tralia.
No. of Occupations included.	874	909	627	567	489	482	3,948

**RATES OF WAGE.**

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914 .. ..	55 11	54 4	52 10	54 4	62 9	52 7	55 3
30th September, 1929 .. ..	103 6	101 1	101 4	97 5	100 8	94 7	101 5
31st December, 1930 .. ..	99 1	96 11	92 5	92 8	99 7	92 1	96 9
" " 1931 .. ..	93 5	82 2	89 0	75 0	84 1	79 9	86 10
" " 1932 .. ..	84 11	77 10	88 5	72 7	81 9	78 0	81 10
" " 1933 .. ..	81 11	77 0	88 1	73 5	81 4	78 0	80 6
" " 1934 .. ..	83 2	78 8	88 9	75 6	84 1	79 7	82 0
" " 1935 .. ..	84 2	79 9	88 5	77 11	84 2	81 0	82 10
" " 1936 .. ..	85 6	83 1	88 7	79 6	88 6	83 3	84 10
" " 1937 .. ..	92 1	88 1	92 8	85 10	90 10	87 0	90 2
31st March, 1938 .. ..	93 0	89 3	92 9	86 1	91 0	87 10	91 0
30th June, 1938 .. ..	93 1	89 3	95 9	86 2	91 0	87 10	91 5
30th September, 1938 .. ..	93 10	90 0	95 9	86 7	96 9	88 0	92 5
31st December, 1938 .. ..	95 0	91 2	95 10	87 1	96 10	88 5	93 3

**INDEX-NUMBERS.**

(Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia (51s. 3d.), 1911 = 1,000.)

	1,091	1,059	1,030	1,060	1,225	1,026	1,079
30th June, 1914 .. ..	2,020	1,973	1,977	1,901	1,964	1,846	1,979
30th September, 1929 .. ..	1,933	1,891	1,803	1,807	1,943	1,797	1,887
31st December, 1930 .. ..	1,823	1,603	1,737	1,463	1,641	1,556	1,694
" " 1931 .. ..	1,657	1,518	1,726	1,416	1,595	1,523	1,597
" " 1932 .. ..	1,598	1,502	1,718	1,433	1,587	1,522	1,570
" " 1933 .. ..	1,623	1,534	1,732	1,473	1,640	1,552	1,599
" " 1934 .. ..	1,642	1,555	1,725	1,520	1,642	1,581	1,617
" " 1935 .. ..	1,668	1,621	1,729	1,552	1,726	1,625	1,656
" " 1936 .. ..	1,797	1,719	1,808	1,674	1,772	1,697	1,760
31st March, 1938 .. ..	1,815	1,741	1,809	1,680	1,776	1,714	1,775
30th June, 1938 .. ..	1,816	1,742	1,868	1,681	1,776	1,714	1,784
30th September, 1938 .. ..	1,830	1,756	1,868	1,689	1,888	1,717	1,803
31st December, 1938 .. ..	1,854	1,780	1,870	1,700	1,890	1,725	1,820

(a) Highest weighted average weekly rate recorded for Australia.

**3. Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914–1938.**—The following table shows for Australia (a) the weighted average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups, and (b) the weighted average wage for all groups combined, at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000) :—

## Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-Numbers of Wage Rates in each Industrial Group.

Date.	INDUSTRIAL GROUP.														
	I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	II. Engineering, etc.	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	V. Books, Printing, etc.	VI. Other Manufacturing.	VII. Building.	VIII. Mining.	IX. Railways, etc.	X. Other Land Transport.	XI. Shipping, etc.(a)	XII. Agricultural, etc.(b)	XIII. Domestic, etc.(b)	XIV. Miscellaneous.	All Industrial Groups.
RATES OF WAGE.															
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914 ..	59 2	57 2	55 2	52 10	63 9	55 8	65 4	64 11	59 8	51 1	48 7	49 5	47 0	53 10	55 3
30th September, 1929 ..	104 8	103 11	101 1	100 0	119 3	102 7	113 5	110 6	105 2	97 8	106 7	95 10	93 5	97 0	101 5
31st December, 1930 ..	100 3	99 1	97 1	99 5	116 5	97 10	109 8	107 10	100 2	92 10	99 6	87 5	91 3	93 7	96 9
" " 1931 ..	85 7	86 3	88 6	83 11	102 0	85 4	98 9	102 5	86 7	83 11	81 10	80 3	85 3	83 11	86 10
" " 1932 ..	83 4	81 6	84 2	77 3	98 3	80 7	93 11	98 2	80 11	78 3	79 6	74 9	76 5	78 11	81 10
" " 1933 ..	82 8	81 4	83 3	76 7	97 6	79 5	92 3	97 0	80 4	76 9	80 9	71 11	74 10	77 5	80 6
" " 1934 ..	85 4	83 2	83 8	79 11	99 6	81 4	93 8	97 7	82 8	78 9	84 8	73 4	75 9	78 7	82 0
" " 1935 ..	86 8	85 3	85 3	80 9	100 11	83 0	94 1	97 10	84 9	80 1	85 2	73 4	76 8	79 6	82 10
" " 1936 ..	88 3	86 10	87 3	81 4	104 4	85 2	95 7	99 2	86 0	81 8	86 8	75 9	79 1	82 2	84 10
" " 1937 ..	95 1	94 11	92 6	89 0	108 7	91 3	101 7	103 0	92 4	88 3	95 6	78 9	85 3	87 6	90 2
31st March, 1938 ..	95 7	95 6	93 2	89 11	110 2	92 2	102 1	104 3	92 8	89 5	96 4	79 8	86 4	88 1	91 0
30th June, 1938 ..	96 1	95 9	93 9	90 1	110 7	92 6	102 7	104 9	93 4	89 10	96 4	80 5	86 9	88 6	91 5
30th September, 1938 ..	97 7	97 1	94 8	90 11	111 1	93 5	103 9	106 3	94 5	90 11	96 4	80 9	87 10	89 6	92 5
31st December, 1938 ..	98 2	97 8	95 2	91 9	112 0	94 4	104 6	106 6	95 5	91 7	97 6	82 3	88 3	90 5	93 3
INDEX-NUMBERS.															
(Base: Weighted Average Wage for Australia (51s. 3d.), 1911 = 1,000.)															
30th June, 1914 ..	1,154	1,116	1,077	1,031	1,243	1,086	1,275	1,267	1,164	997	948	964	918	1,050	1,079
30th September, 1929 ..	2,042	2,028	1,973	1,950	2,327	2,001	2,214	2,157	2,052	1,905	2,079	1,870	1,823	1,893	1,979
31st December, 1930 ..	1,956	1,933	1,894	1,940	2,271	1,909	2,139	2,104	1,955	1,812	1,941	1,706	1,780	1,826	1,887
" " 1931 ..	1,669	1,683	1,727	1,638	1,991	1,664	1,926	1,999	1,690	1,638	1,596	1,566	1,663	1,637	1,694
" " 1932 ..	1,627	1,589	1,642	1,507	1,918	1,572	1,833	1,916	1,579	1,527	1,552	1,458	1,492	1,540	1,597
" " 1933 ..	1,613	1,587	1,625	1,494	1,902	1,549	1,800	1,893	1,567	1,497	1,575	1,404	1,460	1,511	1,570
" " 1934 ..	1,664	1,623	1,633	1,559	1,942	1,587	1,828	1,904	1,613	1,537	1,652	1,431	1,478	1,532	1,599
" " 1935 ..	1,691	1,663	1,664	1,576	1,969	1,610	1,836	1,908	1,653	1,562	1,661	1,431	1,496	1,552	1,617
" " 1936 ..	1,722	1,694	1,702	1,587	2,035	1,661	1,866	1,935	1,677	1,593	1,690	1,478	1,543	1,603	1,656
" " 1937 ..	1,855	1,852	1,805	1,737	2,119	1,780	1,982	2,010	1,802	1,722	1,863	1,537	1,663	1,707	1,760
31st March, 1938 ..	1,866	1,863	1,818	1,754	2,150	1,799	1,991	2,034	1,808	1,744	1,879	1,555	1,685	1,718	1,775
30th June, 1938 ..	1,875	1,868	1,829	1,758	2,158	1,804	2,001	2,044	1,821	1,753	1,880	1,568	1,692	1,726	1,784
30th September, 1938 ..	1,905	1,894	1,848	1,774	2,168	1,822	2,024	2,073	1,842	1,774	1,880	1,575	1,714	1,747	1,803
31st December, 1938 ..	1,916	1,906	1,857	1,790	2,185	1,840	2,039	2,077	1,862	1,787	1,902	1,604	1,722	1,764	1,820

(a) Including the value of victualling and accommodation where supplied.

(b) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied.

4. **Adult Female Weekly Wages—States, 1914-1938.**—The index-numbers given in the preceding paragraphs for male adult workers were computed with the weighted average wage in 1911 as base (= 1,000). In the case of females, however, it has not been possible to secure information for years prior to 1914, and the index-numbers are therefore computed with the weighted average rate of wage payable to adult female workers in Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage payable to adult female workers for a full week's work in each State and Australia at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at the 30th April, 1914, as base (=1,000).

### Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States.

*Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.*

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
No. of Occupations Included	85	87	37	47	24	28	308

### RATES OF WAGE.

	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
30th June, 1914 ..	26	9	27	4	27	0	24	1	37	4	25	10	27	2
30th September, 1929 ..	54	1	54	1	54	10	51	3	58	10	53	7	(a) 54	2
31st December, 1930 ..	53	8	53	6	52	11	51	2	60	1	53	8	53	7
" " 1931 ..	49	8	45	10	47	11	43	1	51	7	45	8	47	5
" " 1932 ..	44	8	43	0	46	9	40	11	49	7	43	4	44	2
" " 1933 ..	43	2	42	9	46	9	41	0	48	4	43	2	43	5
" " 1934 ..	44	3	43	9	47	8	41	11	49	1	44	1	44	5
" " 1935 ..	44	11	44	2	48	0	42	5	49	1	44	10	45	0
" " 1936 ..	45	7	46	10	48	4	43	4	50	11	45	1	46	5
" " 1937 ..	50	2	49	2	51	4	46	10	51	6	48	6	49	8
31st March, 1938 ..	50	8	49	7	51	7	47	1	51	6	48	11	50	1
30th June, 1938 ..	50	8	49	9	52	7	47	1	51	6	48	11	50	3
30th September, 1938 ..	51	1	50	0	52	9	47	2	54	10	49	0	50	7
31st December, 1938 ..	51	10	50	7	53	6	47	9	55	4	49	8	51	4

### INDEX-NUMBERS.

(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (27s. 2d.), 30th April, 1914, = 1,000.)

	984	1,006	993	885	1,373	950	1,000
30th June, 1914 ..	984	1,006	993	885	1,373	950	1,000
30th September, 1929 ..	1,992	1,989	2,020	1,887	2,165	1,973	1,992
31st December, 1930 ..	1,974	1,968	1,947	1,884	2,211	1,976	1,971
" " 1931 ..	1,828	1,688	1,765	1,584	1,900	1,681	1,746
" " 1932 ..	1,644	1,583	1,720	1,505	1,826	1,595	1,624
" " 1933 ..	1,589	1,573	1,720	1,510	1,778	1,587	1,559
" " 1934 ..	1,628	1,609	1,755	1,541	1,808	1,623	1,636
" " 1935 ..	1,654	1,626	1,767	1,561	1,808	1,651	1,655
" " 1936 ..	1,677	1,722	1,780	1,594	1,873	1,661	1,708
" " 1937 ..	1,848	1,810	1,889	1,724	1,894	1,785	1,828
31st March, 1938 ..	1,866	1,826	1,897	1,733	1,894	1,800	1,843
30th June, 1938 ..	1,866	1,832	1,936	1,733	1,894	1,800	1,850
30th September, 1938 ..	1,879	1,841	1,940	1,735	2,017	1,805	1,863
31st December, 1938 ..	1,907	1,862	1,969	1,758	2,037	1,828	1,888

(a) Highest weighted average weekly rate recorded for Australia.

**5. Adult Female Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914–1938.**—The following table shows for Australia (a) the weighted average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups in which females are mainly employed, and (b) the weighted average rate for all groups combined, at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups at the 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

**Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Females, Industrial Groups.**

*Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates in each Industrial Group.*

Date.	INDUSTRIAL GROUP.					
	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	I., II., V., and VI. All Other Manu- facturing.	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.(a)	XIV. Miscel- laneous.	All Groups.
RATES OF WAGE.						
30th June, 1914 .. ..	22 6	24 9	26 11	31 1	30 2	27 2
30th September, 1929 ..	49 5	54 6	53 11	53 1	53 4	54 2
31st December, 1930 ..	48 4	54 2	52 7	55 2	52 10	53 7
" " 1931 ..	44 4	45 5	46 11	50 9	49 10	47 5
" " 1932 ..	41 0	42 4	44 2	46 2	47 0	44 2
" " 1933 ..	40 6	41 11	43 5	43 4	45 11	43 5
" " 1934 ..	40 8	43 6	44 2	45 11	47 2	44 5
" " 1935 ..	42 1	44 2	44 8	46 3	46 5	45 0
" " 1936 ..	43 1	44 9	45 8	47 1	50 9	46 5
" " 1937 ..	45 7	48 1	49 4	51 2	53 0	49 8
31st March, 1938 ..	46 3	48 6	49 6	51 8	53 3	50 1
30th June, 1938 ..	46 5	48 7	49 7	52 2	53 8	50 3
30th September, 1938 ..	46 10	48 10	50 0	52 9	53 11	50 7
31st December, 1938 ..	47 1	49 9	50 6	53 1	54 6	51 4

**INDEX-NUMBERS.**

(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (27s. 2d.), 30th April, 1914, = 1,000.)

30th June, 1914 .. ..	828	911	991	1,144	1,110	1,000
30th September, 1929 ..	1,819	2,006	1,984	2,029	1,963	1,992
31st December, 1930 ..	1,777	1,994	1,934	1,994	1,945	1,971
" " 1931 ..	1,630	1,672	1,728	1,869	1,834	1,746
" " 1932 ..	1,508	1,559	1,625	1,700	1,730	1,624
" " 1933 ..	1,491	1,542	1,599	1,594	1,691	1,599
" " 1934 ..	1,497	1,601	1,626	1,689	1,737	1,636
" " 1935 ..	1,549	1,625	1,645	1,701	1,708	1,655
" " 1936 ..	1,585	1,646	1,680	1,734	1,867	1,708
" " 1937 ..	1,677	1,770	1,815	1,883	1,952	1,828
31st March, 1938 ..	1,702	1,786	1,823	1,902	1,959	1,843
30th June, 1938 ..	1,708	1,787	1,824	1,919	1,974	1,850
30th September, 1938 ..	1,724	1,797	1,841	1,941	1,985	1,863
31st December, 1938 ..	1,732	1,831	1,859	1,954	2,004	1,888

(a) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied.

**6. Hours of Labour and Hourly Rates of Wage, 31st December, 1938.—**

(i) *General.*—The rates of wage referred to in the preceding paragraphs are the minima payable for a full week's work. The number of hours constituting a full week's work differs, however, in many instances, between various trades and occupations in each State, and between the same trades and occupations in the several States. To secure what may be for some

purposes a better comparison, the results in the preceding paragraphs are reduced to a common basis, namely, the rate of wage per hour in industrial groups in each State and in all States. In the Appendix (Sections V. and VI.) details are given of the number of hours worked per week in the various industries. The following tables include the average number of hours per week in industrial groups for each State.

The tables show (a) the average weekly wage, (b) the average number of working hours per week for a full week's work, and (c) the average hourly wage for adult male and female workers in each State and industrial group except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.). Many of the occupations included in the latter two groups are of a casual or seasonal nature, and the hours of labour are not generally regulated either by awards or determinations of industrial tribunals or in other ways. Hence the necessary definite particulars for the computation of average working hours and hourly rates of wages are not available.

(ii) *Adult Males*.—The following table shows the average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers and the weekly hours of labour at the 31st December, 1938:—

**Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, Industrial Groups.**

*Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1938.*

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (a)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	101/9	94/2	101/3	93/1	98/10	92/10	98/2
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.03	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	2/3½	2/1½	2/3½	2/1½	2/3	2/1½	2/2½
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	99/8	95/11	99/6	92/8	101/8	96/9	97/8
	Working Hours	44.03	44.34	44.00	46.63	44.10	45.18	44.46
	Hourly Wage	2/3½	2/2	2/3½	1/11½	2/3½	2/1½	2/2½
III. Food, Drink, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	98/6	91/4	95/7	92/8	98/3	91/3	95/2
	Working Hours	44.00	46.24	44.32	46.81	45.28	47.68	45.11
	Hourly Wage	2/2½	1/11½	2/2	1/11½	2/2	1/11	2/1½
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	90/9	90/11	94/11	95/0	98/7	88/7	91/9
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	2/0½	2/0½	2/2	2/2	2/3	2/0½	2/1
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	119/4	106/7	106/8	102/5	127/1	102/1	112/0
	Working Hours	43.38	43.63	44.00	43.68	42.79	43.35	45.53
	Hourly Wage	2/9	2/5½	2/5	2/4½	2/11½	2/4½	2/7
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	Weekly Wage	9/8	90/6	93/11	92/6	97/2	92/1	94/4
	Working Hours	44.07	45.62	44.03	45.45	44.23	44.43	44.76
	Hourly Wage	2/2½	1/11½	2/1½	2/0½	2/2½	2/0½	2/1½
VII. Building ..	Weekly Wage	109/0	103/1	101/7	98/0	103/0	95/5	104/6
	Working Hours	43.66	44.00	40.00	44.00	44.00	44.30	43.43
	Hourly Wage	2/6	2/4	2/6½	2/2½	2/4	2/1½	2/4½
VIII. Mining(b) ..	Weekly Wage	112/4	95/1	115/10	71/6	105/11	98/8	106/6
	Working Hours	42.95	43.57	43.47	43.79	43.65	44.92	43.40
	Hourly Wage	2/7½	2/2½	2/8	1/7½	2/5	2/2½	2/5½
IX. Rail and Tram Services ..	Weekly Wage	96/10	94/8	96/4	91/2	96/9	88/5	95/5
	Working Hours	44.00	47.59	44.00	46.00	43.79	45.71	45.20
	Hourly Wage	2/2½	1/11½	2/2½	1/11½	2/2½	1/11½	2/1½
X. Other Land Transport ..	Weekly Wage	95/10	87/9	93/0	83/1	95/1	85/11	91/7
	Working Hours	44.00	46.93	44.00	48.00	46.50	48.00	45.50
	Hourly Wage	2/2½	1/10½	2/1½	1/8½	2/0½	1/9½	2/0½

(a) Weighted Average.  
centres in each State.

(b) Average rates of wage and hours prevailing at the principal mining

Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups—continued.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (a)
XI. Shipping, etc.	Weekly Wage(b)	98/0	96/10	95/8	99/7	96/3	97/6	97/6
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	Weekly Wage(c)	77/1	83/5	89/3	80/3	88/0	85/0	82/3
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	Weekly Wage(c)	91/1	88/4	87/4	82/4	87/7	69/10	88/3
	Working Hours	44.00	46.62	44.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	45.50
	Hourly Wage(c)	2/0½	1/10½	1/11½	1/8½	1/10	1/5½	1/11½
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	Weekly Wage	93/3	88/10	92/5	82/11	92/4	81/5	90/5
	Working Hours	44.54	47.38	44.00	47.62	47.23	47.59	45.91
	Hourly Wage	2/1½	1/10½	2/1½	1/9	1/11½	1/8½	1/11½
All Groups(a) .. ..	Weekly Wage	95/0	91/2	95/10	87/1	96/10	88/5	93/3
All Groups excepting XI and XII.(a)	Weekly Wage	99/1	92/8	98/3	88/3	98/9	89/5	95/11
	Working Hours	44.01	45.85	43.67	46.31	45.11	46.00	44.85
	Hourly Wage	2/3	2/0½	2/3	1/10½	2/2½	1/11½	2/1½

(a) Weighted average. (b) Average rates of wage are for occupations other than Masters, Officers, and Engineers in the Merchant Marine Service, and include value of victualling and accommodation where provided. (c) Including the value of board and lodging, where supplied, in order that the rate may be comparable with those paid in other industries.

(iii) *Adult Females.*—The following table shows the average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers and the weekly hours of labour at the 31st December, 1938:—

Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates: Adult Females, Industrial Groups.

Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1938.

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (a)
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	48/4	47/4	44/5	40/6	43/9	45/6	47/1
	Working Hours	44.00	45.00	45.00	46.00	44.00	44.00	44.64
	Hourly Wage	1/0½	1/0½	0/11½	0/10½	1/0	1/0½	1/0½
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	Weekly Wage	49/11	48/8	52/0	51/5	51/10	48/10	49/9
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00
	Hourly Wage	1/1½	1/1½	1/2½	1/2	1/2½	1/1½	1/1½
I., II., V., & VI. All other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	48/8	52/5	48/5	48/8	..	50/6	50/6
	Working Hours	44.00	44.00	44.00	45.97	..	44.00	44.31
	Hourly Wage	1/1½	1/2½	1/1½	1/0½	..	1/1½	1/1½
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	Weekly Wage(b)	51/9	55/1	53/7	43/4	59/3	51/11	53/1
	Working Hours	43.38	45.95	48.00	48.00	46.80	48.00	45.01
	Hourly Wage(b)	1/2½	1/2½	1/2½	0/10½	1/3½	1/1	1/2½
XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.	Weekly Wage	57/1	52/10	58/6	45/0	..	..	54/6
	Working Hours	44.00	45.50	44.00	48.00	..	..	44.96
	Hourly Wage	1/3½	1/2	1/4	0/11½	..	..	1/2½
All Groups(a) .. ..	Weekly Wage	51/10	50/7	53/6	47/9	55/4	49/8	51/4
	Working Hours	43.88	44.63	44.03	45.96	45.38	45.10	44.44
	Hourly Wage	1/2½	1/1½	1/2½	1/0½	1/2½	1/1½	1/1½

(a) Weighted Average. (b) Including the value of board and lodging, where supplied, in order that the rate may be comparable with those paid in other industries.

7. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1891 to 1938.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage payable to adult male workers in each State from 1891 to 1938. The wages given in this table relate to the 31st December in each year. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia in 1911 as base (= 1,000).

**Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, States.**

*Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.*

State.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
RATES OF WAGE.													
N.S.W. ..	44	1 43	11 51	5 56	2 94	0 102	11 84	11 81	11 83	2 84	2 85	6 92	1 95
Victoria ..	40	5 40	9 50	0 54	7 86	1 101	1 77	10 77	0 78	8 79	9 83	1 88	1 91
Queensland ..	46	6 46	2 51	1 53	5 91	6 101	2 88	5 88	1 88	9 88	5 88	7 92	8 95
S. Australia ..	41	7 42	0 51	11 54	5 82	8 97	0 72	7 73	5 75	6 77	11 79	6 85	10 87
W. Australia ..	52	4 53	11 59	0 62	10 89	9 100	7 81	9 81	4 84	1 84	2 88	6 90	10 96
Tasmania ..	38	6 36	10 41	0 52	8 85	9 94	8 78	1 78	0 79	7 81	0 83	3 87	0 88
Australia ..	43	5 43	5 51	3 55	7 89	10 101	2 81	10 80	6 82	0 82	10 84	10 90	2 93

**INDEX-NUMBERS.**

(Base: Weighted average for Australia (51s. 3d.) 1911 = 1,000.)

N.S. Wales ..	861	858	1,003	1,096	1,835	2,007	1,657	1,598	1,623	1,642	1,668	1,797	1,854
Victoria ..	789	796	985	1,065	1,679	1,972	1,518	1,502	1,534	1,555	1,621	1,719	1,780
Queensland ..	908	901	997	1,042	1,785	1,975	1,726	1,718	1,732	1,725	1,729	1,808	1,870
S. Australia ..	811	819	1,013	1,062	1,613	1,806	1,416	1,433	1,473	1,520	1,552	1,674	1,700
W. Australia ..	1,022	1,052	1,152	1,226	1,751	1,963	1,595	1,587	1,640	1,642	1,726	1,772	1,890
Tasmania ..	751	719	799	1,028	1,674	1,848	1,523	1,522	1,552	1,581	1,625	1,697	1,725
Australia ..	848	848	1,000	1,085	1,752	1,974	1,597	1,570	1,599	1,617	1,656	1,760	1,820

8. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1891 to 1938.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly wages payable in each industrial group in Australia. The wages relate to the 31st December in each year. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups in 1911 as base (= 1,000).

**Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups.**

*Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates.*

Industrial Group.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
RATES OF WAGE.													
I. ..	52	5 52	3 57	8 59	6 95	1 104	0 83	4 82	8 85	4 86	8 88	3 95	1 98
II. ..	47	8 48	5 54	6 57	9 92	5 103	6 81	6 81	4 83	2 85	3 86	10 94	11 97
III. ..	38	2 44	7 50	9 55	8 89	3 100	10 84	2 83	3 83	8 85	4 87	3 92	6 95
IV. ..	36	8 36	3 50	3 53	0 86	5 99	6 77	3 76	7 79	11 80	9 81	4 89	0 91
V. ..	53	5 51	0 58	11 63	10 99	6 119	1 98	3 97	6 99	6 100	11 104	4 108	7 112
VI. ..	46	4 46	5 51	11 56	0 88	11 102	2 80	7 79	5 81	4 83	0 85	2 91	3 94
VII. ..	50	6 53	10 62	1 65	5 95	7 113	0 93	11 92	3 93	8 94	1 95	7 101	7 104
VIII. ..	58	1 54	8 61	2 65	2 103	10 110	7 98	2 97	0 97	7 97	10 99	2 103	0 106
IX. ..	50	10 52	4 57	0 59	8 93	1 105	2 80	11 80	4 82	8 84	9 86	0 92	6 95
X. ..	39	6 40	9 46	7 52	8 87	3 96	9 78	3 76	9 78	9 80	1 81	8 88	3 91
XI. ..	38	2 38	5 44	7 49	10 88	0 107	0 79	6 80	9 84	8 85	2 86	8 95	6 97
XII. ..	34	10 32	1 43	0 49	5 87	1 95	6 74	9 71	11 73	4 73	4 75	9 78	9 82
XIII. ..	32	10 30	8 45	5 47	11 80	6 92	6 76	5 74	10 75	9 76	8 79	1 85	3 88
XIV. ..	39	7 38	10 47	7 54	0 84	11 96	8 78	11 77	5 78	7 79	7 82	2 87	6 90
ALL GROUPS	43	5 43	5 51	3 55	7 89	10 101	2 81	10 80	6 82	0 82	10 84	10 90	2 93



Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Males, Industrial Groups—continued.

Industrial Group.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1920.	1929.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
INDEX-NUMBERS.													
(Base : Weighted average for Australia (51s. 3d.) 1911 = 1,000.)													
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	1,023	1,019	1,125	1,161	1,855	2,046	1,627	1,613	1,664	1,691	1,722	1,855	1,916
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	931	945	1,064	1,127	1,803	2,019	1,589	1,587	1,623	1,663	1,694	1,852	1,906
III. Food, Drink, etc.	745	871	991	1,085	1,742	1,967	1,642	1,625	1,633	1,664	1,702	1,805	1,857
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	716	708	981	1,034	1,687	1,942	1,507	1,494	1,559	1,576	1,587	1,737	1,790
V. Books, Printing, etc.	1,043	996	1,149	1,240	1,941	2,323	1,918	1,902	1,942	1,969	2,035	2,119	2,185
VI. Other Manufacturing	904	907	1,013	1,093	1,736	1,994	1,572	1,549	1,587	1,616	1,661	1,780	1,840
VII. Building ..	986	1,050	1,213	1,276	1,865	2,205	1,833	1,800	1,828	1,836	1,866	1,982	2,039
VIII. Mining ..	1,134	1,067	1,194	1,272	2,026	2,157	1,916	1,893	1,904	1,908	1,935	2,010	2,077
IX. Rail and Tram Services	992	1,021	1,113	1,165	1,816	2,052	1,579	1,567	1,613	1,653	1,677	1,802	1,862
X. Other Land Transport	772	795	910	1,026	1,702	1,888	1,527	1,497	1,537	1,562	1,593	1,722	1,787
XI. Shipping, etc.	745	751	871	972	1,716	2,087	1,552	1,575	1,652	1,661	1,690	1,863	1,902
XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.	680	627	839	965	1,699	1,863	1,458	1,404	1,431	1,431	1,478	1,537	1,604
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	641	598	887	935	1,571	1,804	1,492	1,460	1,478	1,496	1,543	1,663	1,722
XIV. Miscellaneous	773	759	929	1,054	1,656	1,886	1,540	1,511	1,530	1,552	1,603	1,707	1,764
All Groups ..	848	848	1,000	1,085	1,752	1,974	1,597	1,570	1,599	1,617	1,656	1,760	1,820

9. Adult Male Hourly Wages—States, 1914-1938.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers in each State at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914 as base (= 1,000).

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, States. (a)

NOTE.—The rates of wage per hour are shown to the nearest farthing.

Weighted Average Nominal Hourly Rates payable and Index-numbers of Hourly Rates.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
RATES OF WAGE.							
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th April, 1914 ..	1 2	1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 1	1 2
31st December, 1921	2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 2	2 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 1	1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " 1926	2 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 2	2 4	2 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " 1927	2 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 4	2 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " 1928	2 4	2 2	2 4	2 1	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0	2 3
" " 1929	2 4	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 4	2 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 3
" " 1930	2 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 0	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 1 $\frac{3}{4}$
" " 1931	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " 1932	1 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 7	1 10	1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 10
" " 1933	1 11	1 8	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 10	1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " 1934	1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 7 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 10 $\frac{1}{4}$
" " 1935	1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 9	2 1	1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " 1936	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 10	2 1	1 9	2 0	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " 1937	2 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 11	2 0 $\frac{3}{4}$
" " 1938	2 3	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 3	1 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 1 $\frac{1}{4}$

(a) Weighted average hourly rates of wage for all industrial groups excepting Groups XI. Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII.



## Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, States—continued.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
INDEX-NUMBERS.							
(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (13.96d.) 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)							
30th April, 1914 ..	998	980	963	991	1,170	933	1,000
31st December, 1921	1,817	1,741	1,865	1,637	1,796	1,675	1,779
" " 1926	1,944	1,864	1,997	1,776	1,878	1,746	1,900
" " 1927	1,980	1,880	1,998	1,800	1,882	1,731	1,920
" " 1928	2,004	1,867	2,001	1,788	1,916	1,728	1,928
" " 1929	2,011	1,895	2,001	1,808	1,923	1,751	1,940
" " 1930	1,912	1,813	1,846	1,724	1,922	1,708	1,851
" " 1931	1,873	1,527	1,749	1,383	1,617	1,480	1,676
" " 1932	1,701	1,451	1,748	1,355	1,584	1,464	1,584
" " 1933	1,655	1,438	1,775	1,372	1,571	1,463	1,567
" " 1934	1,676	1,484	1,782	1,410	1,624	1,494	1,594
" " 1935	1,703	1,496	1,782	1,476	1,626	1,519	1,617
" " 1936	1,731	1,567	1,787	1,500	1,724	1,552	1,662
" " 1937	1,878	1,676	1,875	1,602	1,751	1,643	1,774
" " 1938	1,935	1,738	1,934	1,638	1,881	1,671	1,832

10. Adult Female Hourly Wages—States, 1914 to 1938.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers in each State at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914 as base (= 1,000).

## Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States.

NOTE.—The rates of wage per hour are shown to the nearest farthing.

Weighted Average Nominal Hourly Rates payable and Index-numbers of Hourly Rates.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
RATES OF WAGE.							
30th April, 1914 ..	s. d. 0 6½	s. d. 0 6¾	s. d. 0 6½	s. d. 0 5¾	s. d. 0 9¼	s. d. 0 6	s. d. 0 6¾
31st December, 1921	I 1	I 0½	I 1¼	0 11¾	I 2¾	I 0	I 0½
" " 1926	I 1¾	I 1¾	I 2½	I 1	I 3½	I 1	I 1¾
" " 1927	I 2½	I 1¾	I 2½	I 1	I 3½	I 1½	I 2
" " 1928	I 2½	I 2½	I 3	I 1½	I 3½	I 2	I 2½
" " 1929	I 2¾	I 2½	I 3	I 1½	I 3½	I 2	I 2½
" " 1930	I 2	I 2	I 2½	I 1½	I 3½	I 2	I 2½
" " 1931	I 1½	I 0	I 1	0 11¼	I 1½	I 0	I 0½
" " 1932	I 0½	0 11¼	I 0½	0 10¾	I 1	0 11¼	0 11¾
" " 1933	0 11¾	0 11¼	I 0¾	0 10¾	I 0¾	0 11¼	0 11¾
" " 1934	I 0	0 11½	I 1	0 11	I 1	0 11½	I 0
" " 1935	I 0¼	0 11¾	I 1	0 11½	I 1	0 11¾	I 0
" " 1936	I 0½	I 0½	I 1½	0 11¼	I 1½	I 0	I 0½
" " 1937	I 1½	I 1½	I 2	I 0½	I 1½	I 0½	I 1½
" " 1938	I 2¼	I 1½	I 2½	I 0½	I 2¾	I 1¼	I 1¾

Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States—continued.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
INDEX-NUMBERS.							
(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (6.64d.), 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)							
30th April, 1914 ..	980	1,021	976	881	1,386	920	1,000
31st December, 1921	1,965	1,878	1,989	1,770	2,215	1,794	1,923
" " 1926	2,080	2,059	2,169	1,959	2,319	1,952	2,078
" " 1927	2,175	2,084	2,193	1,958	2,327	1,985	2,125
" " 1928	2,205	2,140	2,250	2,003	2,333	2,092	2,172
" " 1929	2,218	2,154	2,252	2,015	2,333	2,108	2,182
" " 1930	2,113	2,127	2,172	2,011	2,383	2,105	2,128
" " 1931	2,044	1,822	1,943	1,688	2,045	1,791	1,910
" " 1932	1,837	1,711	1,863	1,605	1,967	1,700	1,777
" " 1933	1,776	1,700	1,919	1,611	1,916	1,691	1,752
" " 1934	1,819	1,738	1,956	1,699	1,947	1,730	1,797
" " 1935	1,848	1,758	1,971	1,721	1,947	1,759	1,818
" " 1936	1,875	1,883	1,985	1,700	2,018	1,803	1,881
" " 1937	2,066	1,985	2,107	1,839	2,041	1,938	2,017
" " 1938	2,134	2,050	2,196	1,878	2,205	1,991	2,086

II. Nominal Hours of Labour—Adult Males, States.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (exclusive of overtime) in a full working week for adult female workers in each State and Australia at 30th April, 1914, and at 31st December, 1921 to 1938. Index-numbers are given for each State with the weighted average hours of labour for Australia at the 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime) : Adult Males, States.(a)

Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime) worked during a Full Working Week.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
HOURS OF LABOUR.							
30th April, 1914 ..	49.42	48.80	48.78	48.60	47.78	48.62	48.93
31st December, 1921	45.66	46.95	45.52	47.07	46.24	46.84	46.22
" " 1926	44.55	46.94	43.95	46.95	45.80	47.27	45.57
" " 1927	44.44	46.82	43.96	46.78	45.75	47.16	45.46
" " 1928	44.17	46.70	43.96	46.67	45.30	46.85	45.27
" " 1929	44.14	46.83	43.96	46.83	45.58	47.09	45.34
" " 1930	45.64	46.85	44.43	46.83	45.55	47.09	45.98
" " 1931	44.22	46.88	44.98	46.83	45.55	46.76	45.51
" " 1932	44.19	46.86	44.99	46.83	45.51	46.75	45.49
" " 1933	44.23	46.82	44.00	46.83	45.51	46.77	45.36
" " 1934	44.23	46.82	44.00	46.83	45.51	46.77	45.36
" " 1935	44.18	46.69	43.69	46.63	45.48	46.75	45.26
" " 1936	44.08	46.41	43.69	46.55	45.30	46.33	45.09
" " 1937	44.07	46.22	43.68	46.57	45.25	46.24	45.03
" " 1938	44.01	45.85	43.67	46.31	45.11	46.00	44.85

(a) Weighted average working hours per week for all industrial groups excepting Groups XI. (Shipping), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII.

**Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime): Adult Males, States—continued.**

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
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## INDEX-NUMBERS.

(Base: Weighted Average for Australia (48.93), 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)

30th April, 1914 ..	1,010	997	997	993	976	994	1,000
31st December, 1921	933	960	930	962	945	957	945
" " 1926	910	959	898	960	936	966	931
" " 1927	908	957	898	956	935	964	929
" " 1928	903	954	898	954	926	957	925
" " 1929	902	957	898	957	932	962	927
" " 1930	933	958	908	957	931	962	940
" " 1931	904	958	919	957	931	956	930
" " 1932	903	958	919	957	930	955	930
" " 1933	904	957	899	957	930	956	927
" " 1934	904	957	899	957	930	956	927
" " 1935	903	954	893	953	929	955	925
" " 1936	901	948	893	951	926	947	922
" " 1937	901	945	893	952	925	945	920
" " 1938	899	937	893	946	922	940	917

**12. Nominal Hours of Labour—Adult Females, States.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (exclusive of overtime) in a full working week for adult female workers in each State and Australia at 30th April, 1914, and at 31st December, 1921 to 1938. Index-numbers are given for each State with the weighted average hours of labour for Australia at the 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

**Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime): Adult Females, States.***Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime) worked during a Full Working Week.*

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
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## HOURS OF LABOUR.

30th April, 1914 ..	49.34	48.54	49.32	49.33	48.69	50.76	49.08
31st December, 1921	45.06	46.04	45.66	46.10	45.97	47.86	45.69
" " 1926	44.02	45.60	44.01	46.10	45.57	47.86	44.94
" " 1927	44.02	45.58	44.01	46.10	45.57	47.86	44.94
" " 1928	43.93	45.40	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.79
" " 1929	43.93	45.40	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.79
" " 1930	45.85	45.44	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	45.48
" " 1931	43.93	45.44	44.56	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.88
" " 1932	43.93	45.44	44.56	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.88
" " 1933	43.93	45.44	44.03	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.81
" " 1934	43.93	45.44	44.03	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.81
" " 1935	43.93	45.44	44.03	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.81
" " 1936	43.93	44.94	44.03	46.03	45.57	45.24	44.60
" " 1937	43.92	44.76	44.03	46.02	45.57	45.24	44.52
" " 1938	43.88	44.63	44.03	45.96	45.38	45.10	44.44

## Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime): Adult Females, States—continued.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
INDEX-NUMBERS.							
(Base: Weighted average for Australia (49.08) 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)							
30th April, 1914 ..	1,005	989	1,005	1,005	992	1,034	1,000
31st December, 1921	918	938	930	939	937	975	931
" " 1926	897	929	897	939	928	975	916
" " 1927	897	929	897	939	928	975	916
" " 1928	895	925	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1929	895	925	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1930	934	926	897	938	928	939	927
" " 1931	895	926	908	938	928	939	914
" " 1932	895	926	908	938	928	939	914
" " 1933	895	926	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1934	895	926	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1935	895	926	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1936	895	916	897	938	928	922	909
" " 1937	895	912	897	938	928	922	907
" " 1938	894	909	897	936	925	919	905

13. **Nominal and Effective Wages.**—(i) *General.* Wages are said to be *nominal* when they represent the actual amounts of money received in return for labour, and are described as *effective* or *real* when expressed in terms of their equivalent purchasing power, that is, their purchasing power over some definite composite unit or regimen the cost of which can be ascertained at different times. The relation between *nominal* and *effective* or *real* wages was discussed at some length in Labour Report No. 6, and was also referred to in Labour Report No. 11.

Since it is possible to measure purchasing power over more than one composite unit or regimen it is equally possible to convert any given nominal wage series into more than one series of effective or real wages. Prior to 1936 it was the practice of the Bureau to compute effective wage index-numbers by dividing the nominal wage index-numbers by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for food, groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series). While wage-rates were generally varied on the basis of the "A" series index-numbers there was a good deal to be said for this procedure. When the Commonwealth Court abandoned the "A" series, the merits of the "C" series of retail price index-numbers for "deflating" nominal wage rates were strengthened. In the Labour Reports for 1936 and 1937 real wages were measured over both the "A" and "C" series regimens. The computation of the "A" series index by this Bureau was discontinued after the June quarter, 1938. In the following tables, therefore, real wages prior to 1938 are measured in terms of their purchasing power over both the "A" series regimen and the "C" series regimen,\* and for 1938 over the "C" series only.

(ii) *Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, States, 1901 to 1938.*—The following table shows for the period 1901 to 1938 the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage in each State, the weighted average rate for Australia in 1911 being taken as the base (= 1,000). The index-numbers for 1901 and 1911 are based on rates current at the end of December, annual averages not being available. For 1914 and subsequent years, however, the index-numbers have been computed from the average of the rates current at the end of each quarter.

\* For explanation of "A" and "C" series, see page 36.

**Nominal Wage Index-Numbers: Adult Males, States.**

(Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia, 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
N.S.W. ..	858	1,003	1,093	1,862	2,012	1,983	1,851	1,734	1,638	1,617	1,631	1,654	1,723	1,829
Victoria ..	796	985	1,062	1,803	1,964	1,937	1,683	1,552	1,502	1,523	1,550	1,583	1,665	1,755
Queensland ..	901	997	1,035	1,879	1,976	1,898	1,769	1,731	1,720	1,727	1,731	1,728	1,774	1,854
S. Australia ..	819	1,013	1,061	1,697	1,891	1,857	1,580	1,434	1,423	1,458	1,493	1,533	1,608	1,688
W. Australia ..	1,052	1,152	1,223	1,832	1,960	1,955	1,745	1,611	1,583	1,619	1,641	1,688	1,748	1,833
Tasmania ..	719	799	1,027	1,745	1,840	1,829	1,625	1,533	1,519	1,540	1,571	1,610	1,656	1,718
Australia ..	848	1,000	1,081	1,826	1,972	1,939	1,752	1,639	1,584	1,590	1,609	1,635	1,704	1,796

(iii) *Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, States—1901–1938.*—In obtaining the effective wage index-numbers in the following tables the nominal wage index-numbers shown above have been divided by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for the capital city and multiplied by 1,000.

The index-numbers for 1901 and 1911 which are based on nominal rates of wage current at the end of December may be taken as substantially accurate since the movement in wages during the course of any one year prior to 1914 was comparatively slight.

**Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work) : Measured in terms of purchasing power over the "A" series regimen.**

(Base : Weighted average real wage in Australia in 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
N.S.W. ..	961	973	906	1,079	1,089	1,050	1,107	1,160	1,150	1,138	1,101	1,095	1,090	1,107
Victoria ..	915	1,037	961	1,038	1,120	1,084	1,158	1,162	1,126	1,139	1,114	1,092	1,075	1,099
Queensland ..	1,172	1,090	1,038	1,244	1,236	1,220	1,317	1,345	1,376	1,417	1,377	1,323	1,261	1,237
S. Australia ..	948	957	929	1,027	1,089	1,067	1,166	1,178	1,133	1,152	1,144	1,149	1,143	1,151
W. Australia ..	1,024	1,023	1,070	1,139	1,156	1,143	1,229	1,237	1,212	1,246	1,221	1,224	1,221	1,224
Tasmania ..	827	838	942	977	1,099	1,064	1,111	1,104	1,067	1,094	1,086	1,099	1,094	1,088
Australia ..	964	1,000	948	1,076	1,115	1,082	1,152	1,185	1,168	1,178	1,148	1,133	1,119	1,131

Since the "C" series index-numbers were not compiled for periods prior to November, 1914, it has been assumed for the purpose of the following table that fluctuations between 1911 (the base of the table) and 1914 in the "C" series would have been similar to the fluctuations observed in the "A" series.

**Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work) : Measured in terms of purchasing power over the "C" series regimen.**

(Base : Weighted average real wage in Australia in 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
N.S.W. ..	..	925	1,073	1,159	1,130	1,164	1,210	1,206	1,186	1,157	1,153	1,150	1,168	1,207
Victoria ..	..	954	1,084	1,188	1,164	1,221	1,200	1,150	1,147	1,146	1,134	1,131	1,155	1,180
Queensland ..	..	1,022	1,227	1,296	1,290	1,332	1,336	1,366	1,382	1,366	1,338	1,296	1,277	1,311
S. Australia ..	..	914	1,034	1,106	1,099	1,176	1,137	1,079	1,086	1,091	1,097	1,101	1,128	1,146
W. Australia ..	..	1,043	1,096	1,155	1,152	1,206	1,189	1,158	1,177	1,177	1,187	1,190	1,214	1,252
Tasmania ..	..	902	984	1,123	1,108	1,153	1,120	1,094	1,110	1,109	1,115	1,128	1,141	1,167
Australia ..	1,000	948	1,087	1,172	1,151	1,198	1,210	1,190	1,187	1,173	1,166	1,160	1,177	1,207

In the above tables the *effective* wage index-numbers are computed to the one base, that of Australia for 1911. As the index-numbers are comparable in all respects, comparisons may be made as to the increase or decrease in the *effective* wage index-number for any State over any period of years.

(iv) *Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, Australia—1901–1938.* In the following table similar index-numbers are given for Australia as a whole under both the "A" and "C" series. These are obtained by dividing the nominal wage index-numbers for Australia for the year concerned by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for the six capital cities and multiplying by 1,000.

**Nominal and Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work).<sup>(a)</sup>**  
(Base: Weighted average real wage in Australia in 1911 = 1,000.)

Year.	Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers.	Retail Price Index-numbers.		Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers, i.e., relative purchasing power over regimen of—	
		"A" Series (Food, Groceries and Rent of All Houses).	"C" Series (All Items).	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
1901..	848	880	..	964	..
1910..	955	970	..	985	..
1911..	1,000	1,000	(1,000)	1,000	(1,000)
1912..	1,051	1,101	..	955	..
1913..	1,076	1,104	..	975	..
1914..	1,081	1,140	1,140	948	948
1915..	1,092	1,278	1,297	854	842
1916..	1,144	1,324	1,319	864	867
1917..	1,226	1,318	1,406	930	872
1918..	1,270	1,362	1,501	932	846
1919..	1,370	1,510	1,695	907	808
1920..	1,627	1,785	1,935	911	841
1921..	1,826	1,697	1,680	1,076	1,087
1922..	1,801	1,600	1,619	1,126	1,112
1923..	1,805	1,700	1,664	1,062	1,085
1924..	1,840	1,681	1,637	1,095	1,124
1925..	1,861	1,722	1,654	1,081	1,125
1926..	1,914	1,786	1,677	1,072	1,141
1927..	1,946	1,766	1,662	1,102	1,171
1928..	1,963	1,760	1,675	1,115	1,172
1929..	1,972	1,822	1,713	1,082	1,151
1930..	1,939	1,683	1,618	1,152	1,198
1931..	1,752	1,479	1,448	1,185	1,210
1932..	1,639	1,403	1,377	1,168	1,190
1933..	1,584	1,345	1,335	1,178	1,187
1934..	1,590	1,385	1,355	1,148	1,173
1935..	1,609	1,420	1,380	1,133	1,166
1936..	1,635	1,461	1,409	1,119	1,160
1937..	1,704	1,507	1,448	1,131	1,177
1938..	1,796	(b)	1,488	(b)	1,207

(a) As to the effect in abnormal periods, see page 20 of Labour Report No. 6. (b) Not available.

NOTE.—For years prior to 1914 the nominal wage index-numbers relate to the end of the year only but from 1914 onward these figures, in addition to those for retail prices, are averages for the whole year.

The *effective* or *real* wage in 1901 under the "A" series was 3.6 per cent. less than in 1911. During the period 1912 to 1920, while wages increased steadily, prices increased at a greater rate, with the result that the purchasing power of wages under both the "A" and the "C" series was less in each of these years than in 1911. The first occasion on which the *effective* wage was higher than in 1911 was in the year 1921.

In 1937, the last complete year for which both "A" and "C" series of retail price index-numbers are available, the *effective* wage was 13.1 per cent. higher than in 1911 under the "A" series and 17.7 per cent. under the "C" series.

Retail prices rose slightly in 1938, but as nominal wages rose to a greater extent than prices, the *effective* wage index-number rose from 1,177 to 1,207 under the "C" series.

**14. Productive Activity.**—The preceding tables show the movement in *real* (or *effective*) wages, i.e., wages measured in series of retail purchasing power. A parallel problem is the measure of productivity, i.e., the quantity of production (irrespective of prices) in relation to population or persons engaged in production.

The following table shows the total recorded value of production from various sources during the years specified:—

Estimated Gross Value of Australian Production.

Year.	Agricultural.	Pastoral.	Dairy, Poultry and Bee Farming.	Forestry and Fisheries.	Mining.	Manufacturing. (a)	Total.
	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.
1906 ..	25,349	45,389	13,611	4,879	26,643	31,172	147,043
1911 ..	38,774	52,729	20,154	5,868	23,303	47,531	188,359
1913 ..	46,162	63,146	21,682	6,626	25,594	57,674	220,884
1914 ..	36,052	67,085	22,504	6,853	22,054	59,004	213,552
1916 ..	61,255	83,054	27,931	6,062	23,192	60,502	261,996
1918 ..	59,036	96,662	33,738	6,890	25,462	70,087	291,875
1919-20 ..	72,202	111,683	38,830	9,670	18,982	92,330	343,697
1920-21 ..	112,801	90,641	52,613	11,136	21,675	101,778	390,644
1921-22 ..	81,890	75,054	44,417	10,519	20,029	112,517	344,426
1922-23 ..	84,183	97,127	43,542	11,124	20,281	123,188	379,445
1923-24 ..	81,166	110,216	42,112	11,866	22,184	132,732	400,276
1924-25 ..	107,163	127,301	45,190	12,357	24,592	137,977	454,580
1925-26 ..	89,267	113,556	48,278	12,784	24,529	143,256	431,670
1926-27 ..	98,295	111,716	46,980	12,790	23,939	153,634	447,354
1927-28 ..	84,328	124,554	50,261	12,181	23,015	158,562	452,901
1928-29 ..	89,440	116,733	50,717	11,617	19,539	159,759	447,805
1929-30 ..	77,109	84,563	49,398	11,371	17,912	149,184	389,537
1930-31 ..	70,500	69,499	43,067	8,313	15,361	112,966	319,706
1931-32 ..	74,489	61,540	41,478	7,703	13,352	106,456	305,018
1932-33 ..	75,562	64,851	39,622	8,470	15,583	114,136	318,224
1933-34 ..	70,731	95,613	40,306	9,605	17,608	123,355	357,218
1934-35 ..	68,587	74,556	44,763	10,856	19,949	137,638	356,349
1935-36 ..	75,388	91,286	47,533	11,424	23,248	155,891	404,770
1936-37 ..	91,403	105,499	49,886	11,765	27,381	170,811	456,745
1937-38 ..	93,229	100,794	57,641	14,755	32,434	188,061	486,914

(a) Net Values.



In earlier issues of this Report an attempt was made to measure the quantity of material production by means of production price index-numbers. It was found, however, that these were not satisfactory in their application to factory production. In the absence of a satisfactory measure of the quantity of production, the retail price index-numbers have been applied to the value of production, in the same manner as they have been applied to nominal wages, to measure their relative purchasing power. The results may be taken to indicate the purchasing power in retail prices of the things produced, and for convenience will hereafter be called *real* production.

Two tables are given:—The first shows *real* production per head of population, but any deductions therefrom must take into account the following considerations. The production considered is material production only, and takes no account of services. As civilization advances, material production becomes less important relative to services, and a smaller proportion of the population is engaged in such production. For example, the use of the motor car, the cinema and wireless is comparatively recent, and in connexion therewith a much larger number of people is employed in services than in material production. It follows, therefore, that material production per head of population will not measure accurately the progress of productive efficiency, but will tend to give too low a value. Unemployment, of course, will also depress it.

A better measure is given by *real* production per person engaged in material production. The second table attempts to give this. The result will give a better measure of productive efficiency, but will not take into account the effect of unemployment, though the index may be somewhat depressed by short time and rationing.

The two tables tell different stories. Before unemployment became severe in 1930, *real* production per head (as shown in the last two columns of the first table) had remained substantially steady with minor fluctuations since 1906. Whatever gain had been made in productive efficiency had been largely counterbalanced by the gradual change over from production of goods to production of services. Coincident with the heavy increase in unemployment between the years 1930 and 1933, the maximum being reached in 1932, the index-numbers fell sharply from their normal level of about 100 to 76 ("A" series) and 78 ("C" series) in 1930-31. This would imply a fall in average *real* income of nearly one-fourth from the normal level, taking unemployment into account. Apart from a slight recession in 1934-35 due to a drop in wool values the index-numbers rose continuously from 1931-32 onwards; the pre-depression level was reached in 1935-36 and the peak of 1924-25 was exceeded in 1937-38.

The index-numbers of *real* production per person engaged (as given in the last two columns of the second table) show, on the other hand, an appreciable upward tendency. They rose steeply during the war, as might have been expected, fell somewhat after the war, and recovered again. In 1929-30 they fell substantially, due partly to the lag in the fall of retail prices. They increased during the next four years to 125 and 126, only to fall again in 1934-35 to 115 and 117 with the fall in wool prices during that year. Recovering most of this loss in 1935-36 they advanced to new high levels of 128 and 134 in 1936-37 and these figures were maintained in 1937-38. This high figure for *real* production per person engaged implies a high *real* wage for those in employment, and is consistent with available information concerning rate of *effective* or *real* wages, which more than maintained in recent years the high level reached in the years 1927 to 1929.



## Production per Head of Population.

Year.	Value of Material Production.			Retail Price Index-Numbers (a) 1911 = 1,000.		Real Production per head of population (1911=100) measured in purchasing power over regimen of—	
	Total, £1,000.	Per head of population.					
		Actual.	Index- Number. 1911=100	"A" Series.	"C" Series.	"A" Series.	"C" Series.
		£					
1906 ..	147,043	35.9	87	902	..	97	..
1911 ..	188,359	41.2	100	1,000	(1,000)	100	100
1913 ..	220,884	45.1	110	1,104	..	99	..
1914 ..	213,552	43.0	104	1,140	1,140	92	92
1916 ..	261,996	53.3	129	1,324	1,319	98	98
1918 ..	291,875	57.5	140	1,362	1,501	102	93
1919-20..	343,697	64.9	158	1,624	1,695	97	93
1920-21..	390,644	72.2	175	1,821	1,935	96	91
1921-22..	344,426	62.5	152	1,600	1,680	95	90
1922-23..	379,445	67.4	163	1,642	1,619	100	101
1923-24..	400,276	69.6	169	1,714	1,664	99	102
1924-25..	454,580	77.3	188	1,690	1,637	111	115
1925-26..	431,670	72.0	175	1,766	1,673	99	104
1926-27..	447,354	73.1	178	1,763	1,663	101	107
1927-28..	452,901	72.5	176	1,776	1,676	99	105
1928-29..	447,805	70.5	171	1,785	1,693	96	101
1929-30..	389,537	60.6	147	1,783	1,688	83	87
1930-31..	319,706	49.2	120	1,574	1,528	76	78
1931-32..	305,018	46.5	113	1,432	1,406	79	80
1932-33..	318,224	48.2	117	1,358	1,344	86	87
1933-34..	357,218	53.7	130	1,365	1,344	96	97
1934-35..	356,349	53.2	129	1,399	1,366	92	95
1935-36..	404,770	60.0	146	1,437	1,392	101	105
1936-37..	456,745	67.1	163	1,489	1,431	110	114
1937-38..	486,914	70.9	172	1,530	1,467	112	117

(a) For explanation of "A" and "C" series, see page 36.

## Production per Person Engaged.

Year.	Number engaged in Material Production.(a)	Value of Material Production per person engaged in Production.(a)		Real Production per person engaged (1911=100) measured in retail purchasing power over regimen of—(b)	
		Actual.	Index-Number, 1911=100.		
	(1,000.)			"A" Series.	"C" Series.
1906.. ..	659	223	87	96	..
1911.. ..	728	257	100	100	100
1913.. ..	756	290	113	102	..
1914.. ..	733	289	113	99	99
1916.. ..	685	381	148	112	112
1918.. ..	685	424	165	121	110
1919-20 ..	743	460	179	110	106
1920-21 ..	760	510	199	109	103
1921-22 ..	775	441	172	107	102

(a) Vide following explanatory remarks.

(b) For explanation of "A" and "C" Series, see page 36.

Production per Person Engaged—*continued.*

Year.	Number engaged in Material Production.(a)	Value of Material Production per person engaged in Production.(a)		Real Production per person engaged (1911=100) measured in retail purchasing power over regimen of—(b)	
		Actual.	Index-Number. 1911=100.	" A " Series.	" C " Series.
1922-23 ..	793	475	185	113	114
1923-24 ..	810	491	191	111	115
1924-25 ..	826	547	213	126	130
1925-26 ..	831	515	201	114	120
1926-27 ..	841	527	205	116	123
1927-28 ..	838	536	209	118	125
1928-29 ..	830	536	209	117	123
1929-30 ..	803	482	187	105	110
1930-31 ..	728	431	168	108	112
1931-32 ..	741	411	160	112	114
1932-33 ..	781	407	158	117	118
1933-34 ..	815	437	170	125	126
1934-35 ..	862	412	160	115	117
1935-36 ..	901	448	174	121	125
1936-37 ..	930	491	191	128	134
1937-38 ..	961	504	196	128	134

(a) *Vide* following explanatory remarks.

(b) For explanation of " A " and " C " Series, see page 36.

The data for the preceding table are not complete. The numbers engaged in timber-getting are not accurately known, so that the value of production on this account, and the corresponding persons engaged, are both left out of account. Further, the information about women engaged in primary production is unsatisfactory, so that males alone are counted in primary industries. In manufacturing, the numbers are converted into equivalent male workers on the basis of relative wages for male and female workers. The column headed " numbers engaged " is, therefore, rather an index than the absolute number of individuals occupied in material production, but as an index, it should be accurate enough to give a satisfactory index of production per person engaged.

### § 3. The Basic Wage and Child Endowment in Australia.

**I. The Basic Wage.**—(i) *General.*—The " basic " wage is determined by industrial tribunals in Australia operating under Commonwealth and State Arbitration Acts. In the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, and in the industrial legislation of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia, provision is made for the tribunals appointed under the Acts to determine the basic rates of wage to be paid to adult unskilled workers. In Tasmania provision for the declaration of a basic rate of wage is not included in the industrial Acts in force. The Wages Board system operates in this State, and each Wages Board determines the rate of wage to be paid to the unskilled worker when the determination for an industry or calling is under review. In Victoria, however, the same Wages Board system exists, but by amendments

of the Factories Act, operative from 17th October, 1934 (*vide* p. 80), Wages Boards are obliged to adopt the same basic wage as that determined by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for similar industries.

(ii) *Acts in Force*.—The acts in force providing for the determination of a “basic” wage are as follows:—

- (a) Australia—Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904–1934.
- (b) New South Wales—Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1938.
- (c) Victoria—Factories and Shops Act, 1928–1938.
- (d) Queensland—Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1932–1938.
- (e) South Australia—The Industrial Code 1920–1937.
- (f) Western Australia—Industrial Arbitration Act 1912–1937.

2. **The Commonwealth Basic Wage.**—(i) *General*.—The doctrine of a basic wage was propounded as far back as 1890 by Sir Samuel Griffith, Premier of Queensland, and the same principle was enunciated in the New South Wales Arbitration Court in somewhat similar terms by Mr. Justice Heydon in 1905. In spite of these pronouncements, however, and of the fact that wage-fixing tribunals had been in operation as early as 1896 (in the State of Victoria), it was not until the year 1907 that the first basic wage, as such, was declared by a Court in Australia. This declaration was made by Mr. Justice Higgins, President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and is popularly known as the “Harvester Judgment” on account of its having been determined in connexion with H. V. McKay’s Sunshine Harvester Works. The rate of wage declared in this case was 7s. per day or £2 2s. per week for Melbourne, the amount considered reasonable for “a family of about five\*”, and was generally referred to as the “Harvester” wage. The constituent parts of this amount were £1 5s. 5d. for food, 7s. for rent, and 9s. 7d. for all other expenditure.

The judgment was delivered on 8th November, 1907, in the matter of the application of H. V. McKay for an Order in terms of Section 2 (d) of the Excise Tariff 1906. The Commonwealth Parliament had by this Act imposed certain excise duties on agricultural implements, but provided that the Act should not apply to goods manufactured in Australia “under conditions as to the remuneration of labour which are declared by the President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration to be fair and reasonable.” The President discussed at length the meaning of “fair and reasonable”, and stated: “These remarks would not be made if the Legislature had defined the general principles on which I am to determine whether wages are fair and reasonable or the reverse. . . . The provision for fair and reasonable remuneration is obviously designed for the benefit of the employees in the industry; and it must be meant to secure to them something which they cannot get by the ordinary system of individual bargaining with employers. . . . The standard must therefore be something else; and I cannot think of any other standard appropriate than

\* The average number of dependent children per family was apparently regarded by the Court as about three, although statistical information available at the time did not permit of exact figures being ascertained. The 1911 Census disclosed, however, that the average issue of husbands aged 35–39 in the wage and salary earning group was 3.00 children of all ages, and some such figure was probably in the mind of the Court. The only figures available from the 1921 Census for dependent children under 14 years for the wage and salary earning group were—per male householder, 1.55, and an estimate per adult male of 1.0. The average numbers of dependent children under 16 years for the wage and salary earning group at the 1933 Census were as follows—per adult married male, 1.45, and per adult male, 0.91. The following are the estimated numbers of dependent children under 14 years for the same group—per adult married male, 1.27, and per adult male, 0.80.

'the normal needs of the average employee regarded as a human being living in a civilized community.' This may therefore be taken as the true definition of the "basic" wage of the Federal Arbitration Court.

The President in his judgment stated: "My hesitation has been chiefly between 7s. and 7s. 6d.; but I put the minimum at 7s. as I do not think that I could refuse to declare an employer's remuneration to be fair and reasonable if I find him paying 7s. per day."

The "Harvester" basic rates for all other towns throughout Australia were fixed at practically the same rates until the year 1913, when the Court took cognizance of the retail price index-numbers, covering food and groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series) for the 30 more important towns of the Commonwealth, which had been published by the Commonwealth Statistician for the first time in the preceding year. These index-numbers had been taken back to 1901, with the year 1911 as base, and disclosed not only considerable percentage increases since 1907, but also large disparities in the relative purchasing power of money in the various towns. The basic rates for towns were thereafter fixed on their respective index-numbers, taking the index-number 875 for Melbourne for the year 1907 as being equivalent to 42s. per week, or the base of the table 1,000 as being equivalent to 48s. per week. Exceptions were made in the case of many country towns, where certain "loadings" were applied to counterbalance the lower index-numbers due to cheaper rentals.†

In 1922 an amount known as the "Powers' 3s."‡ was added as a general "loading" to the weekly wage for the purpose of securing to the worker during a period of rising prices the full equivalent of the "Harvester" standard. In the same year the system was instituted of making regular quarterly adjustments of the basic wage to accord with variations in purchasing power as disclosed by the "A" series retail price index-numbers.

The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that any alteration of the "basic" wage or the principles on which it is computed, or any variation or interpretation of any award where the variation or interpretation would result in any such alteration, shall have no force or effect unless it is considered by a Court constituted by the Chief Judge and not less than two other Judges, and must be approved by a majority of the members of the Court. By a judgment of the High Court on the 21st April, 1933, the "basic" wage is taken to mean for the foregoing purpose, not only the "Harvester" wage, but any "loadings" forming part of the primary wage of an unskilled labourer (the wage payable for skilled labour being assessed on the basis of that primary wage). A "loading" is defined as an addition to the "basic" wage as compensation for some peculiar condition of labour or environment, and not by way of "margin for skill."

The adequacy or otherwise of the "Harvester" standard has been the subject of much discussion, the author of the judgment himself urging on several occasions the need for its review. The abnormal conditions during and for some time after the war hindered such a review, which was regarded as less urgent by reason of the fact that wages throughout Australia were

\* The term "minimum" wage, on the other hand, is used to express the lowest rate of wage payable in a particular industry, and is either equal to or greater than the "basic" wage.

† As these indexes covered only about 60 per cent. of household expenditure, a low index due to low rentals would wrongly presume low costs in the remaining uninvestigated 40 per cent. of household expenditure and *vice versa*.

‡ Awarded by Mr. Justice Powers in the Gas Workers' Case.

being automatically adjusted to changes in retail prices. A Royal Commission (referred to later) was appointed in 1920 to assess a basic wage, but its recommendations were not carried out.

No change was made in the method of fixation and adjustment of the basic wage until the onset of the depression, which began to be felt severely during 1930. Applications were then made to the Court by employers for some greater measure of reduction of wages than that afforded by the automatic adjustments to falling retail prices. An account of the proceedings which resulted in the Court reducing all wages under its jurisdiction by 10 per cent. from the 1st February, 1931, is given in Labour Report No. 23, page 74. Reference is also made to the Court's refusal in June, 1932, and May, 1933, to remove this special reduction.

(ii) *Basic Wage Inquiry, 1934.*—The "Harvester" standard, adjusted to retail price variations, continued as the theoretical basis of the wage of the Commonwealth Court until 31st May, 1934, when it was superseded by a judgment delivered on 17th April, 1934, full particulars of which appear in earlier issues of this Report. The basic wage declared on this occasion (known as the "Restoration Basic Wage, 1934") was as follows for the six capital cities—

		s.	d.			s.	d.
Sydney	..	67	0	Adelaide	..	64	0
Melbourne	..	64	0	Perth	..	66	0
Brisbane	..	61	0	Hobart	..	67	0

Six Capital cities, 65s.

The 10 per cent. special reduction in wages referred to above ceased to operate upon the introduction of the new rates, and the basis of the periodical adjustments to retail price variations was transferred from the "A" series to the "C" series of index-numbers. The latter series covers Food and Groceries; Rent of 4 and 5-roomed Houses; Clothing; Fuel; Light; Household Utensils; Household Drapery; Fares; and other Miscellaneous household requirements. The base of the table (1,000) was taken by the Court as equal to 81s. per week. This gave the above rates for the capital cities, which are proportionate to their respective index-numbers. In effect, the new rate for the six capital cities was the same as that previously paid under the "A" series, without the "Powers" 3s., and without the 10 per cent. reduction. Certain towns gained and others lost in comparison with rates under the "A" series, owing to the different relationship of towns under the "A" and the "C" series.

(iii) *Basic Wage Inquiry, 1937.*—In May, 1937, the Commonwealth Court heard an application by the combined Unions for an increase in the basic wage. The Unions asked that the equivalent of the base (1,000) of the "C" series index be increased from 81s. to 93s., which on current index-numbers would have represented an average increase of about 10s. per week. The hearing extended from 10th May to 4th June, 1937, and the Court delivered judgment on 23rd June. The chief features of the judgment were:

(a) Various amounts were added to the basic wage not as an integral, and therefore adjustable, part of that wage, but as "loadings" on the rates that would have been payable under the "shilling table" as determined

by the 1934 judgment. The latter was referred to in the judgment as the "needs" portion of the total resultant basic wage. The "loadings" and resultant "total basic wages" for the six capital cities were as follows :—

City.	" Needs " Basic Wage.	" Loading."	Total Basic Wage.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Sydney .. .. .	72 0	6 0	78 0
Melbourne .. .. .	69 0	6 0	75 0
Brisbane .. .. .	68 0	6 0	74 0
Adelaide .. .. .	68 0 (a)	4 0	72 0
Perth .. .. .	70 0 (a)	4 0	74 0
Hobart .. .. .	70 0 (b)	4 0	74 0
Six Capitals .. .. .	70 0	5 0	75 0

(a) An additional 1s. was actually being paid under the " 2s. minimum adjustment " provision.  
 (b) 1s. less was being paid under the " 2s. minimum adjustment " provision.

The above were not to apply to railway employees, to whom the Court granted "loadings" of 5s. in New South Wales and Victoria, and 3s. in South Australia and Tasmania. Workers in the provincial towns were to receive "loadings"—6s. in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland; and 4s. in South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania. Wages based on "combination" index-numbers covering four, five or six capital cities, or the 30 towns, would receive a "loading" of 5s. per week. The maritime workers were granted a "loading" of 21s. 6d. per month, and the pastoral workers received increases proportionate to the increase of the flat basic rate, from 68s. to 77s. in respect of the basis of piece-work rates, and of 3s. per week for station hands.

The "loadings" were to come into operation by instalments as follows :—

" Loading."	Instalments.	Date of Operation. (First pay period to begin in—).
<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	
6 0	3 0	July, 1937
	3 0	October "
5 0	3 0	July "
	2 0	October "
4 0	2 0	July "
	2 0	October "
3 0	2 0	July "
	1 0	October "

The maritime, pastoral and gas workers' increases were to become fully operative in the first pay period commencing in July.

(b) The former proviso that no adjustment of wages should take place unless the amount of variation reached at least 2s. was rescinded in favour of minimum variations of 1s. per week.

(c) The general policy laid down in the previous judgment in regard to rates for country towns was retained, with the exception that the rates for Geelong and Warrnambool were made the same as those for Melbourne.

(d) The basis of the adjustment of wages in accordance with the variations shown by retail price index-numbers was transferred from the "C" series to a special "Court" series based upon the "C" series, for an explanation of which see page 37.

(e) Female and junior rates were left for adjustment by individual judges when dealing with specific awards.

The main parts of the judgment were reprinted in earlier issues of the Labour Report (See No. 28, p. 79).

The "basic" wage rates of the Federal Court, including the "loadings" referred to above, operative from 1st December, 1939, are as follows:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
New South Wales—			South Australia—		
Sydney ..	82	0	Adelaide ..	77	0
Newcastle* ..	82	0	Five Towns ..	77	0
Broken Hill ..	82	0			
Five Towns ..	81	0	Western Australia—		
			Perth ..	77	0
Victoria—			Kalgoorlie ..	91	0
Melbourne ..	80	0	Geraldton ..	82	0
Geelong ..			Five Towns ..	78	0
Warrnambool ..					
Mildura ..			Tasmania—		
Yallourn ..	86	6	Hobart ..	77	0
Five Towns ..	80	0	Launceston ..	76	0
			Queenstown (a) ..	66	6
Queensland—			Five Towns ..	77	0
Brisbane ..	76	0	Thirty Towns ..	79	0
Five Towns ..	76	0	Six Capital Cities ..	79	0

\* Based on Sydney. (a) Fixed rate.

With the exception of those mentioned above, the rate for provincial towns is 3s. less than that of their capital city.

**3. State Basic Wages.**—(i) *New South Wales.*—The first determination under the New South Wales Industrial Arbitration Act of a standard "living" wage for adult male employees was made on the 16th February, 1914, when the Court of Industrial Arbitration fixed the "living" wage at £2 8s. per week for adult male employees in the metropolitan area. The Court, however, indicated to Industrial Boards that in view of the prosperous condition of industry they should fix the "living" wage at 8s. 6d. per day. Determinations of the "living" wage in New South Wales were made by the Court of Industrial Arbitration during the period 1914 to 1916. The Board of Trade was established in 1918, and was empowered to determine the "living" wage for adult male and female employees in the State. The first declaration by this body was made on 5th September, 1918. The Board of Trade made numerous declarations during the period 1918 to 1925, its last declaration being that of 24th August, 1925. The Board of Trade ceased to function after the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act 1926 established the Industrial Commission of New South Wales, which exercised the powers of the Board of Trade as from 15th April, 1926. The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act No. 45, 1927, altered the constitution of the Industrial Commission from a single Commissioner to one consisting of three members. Act No. 14 of 1936, however, provided for the appointment of four members and Act No. 36 of 1938 for the appointment of not less than five and not more than six members. The Commission was directed *inter alia*, "not more



frequently than once in every six months to determine a standard of living and to declare . . . the living wages based upon such standard for adult male and female employees in the State." The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act, 1932, directed the Commission within twenty-eight days from the end of the months of March and September to adjust the living wages so declared to accord with the increased or decreased cost of maintaining the determined standard. The first declaration of the Commission was made on 15th December, 1926, when the rate for adult males was fixed at £4 4s. per week, the same rate as that previously declared by the Board of Trade. The adult male rate was determined on the family unit of a man, wife and two children from 1914 to 1925; a man and wife only in 1927, with family allowances for dependent children; and a man, wife, and one child in 1929, with family allowances for other dependent children.

Employees in rural industries are not covered by the rates shown in the following table; a living wage for rural workers of £3 6s. per week was in force for twelve months from October, 1921, and a rate of £4 4s. operated from June, 1927, to December, 1929, when the power of industrial tribunals to fix a living wage for rural workers was withdrawn.

The variations in the living wage determined by the Industrial tribunals of New South Wales are shown below :—

#### Basic Wage Variations in New South Wales.

Male.			Female.		
Date of Declaration.		Basic Wage per Week.	Date of Declaration.		Basic Wage per Week.
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.
16th February, 1914	..	2 8 0	..	..	..
17th December, 1915	..	2 12 6	..	..	..
18th August, 1916	..	2 15 6	..	..	..
5th September, 1918	..	3 0 0	17th December, 1918	..	1 10 0
8th October, 1919	..	3 17 0	23rd December, 1919	..	1 19 0
8th October, 1920	..	4 5 0	23rd December, 1920	..	2 3 0
8th October, 1921	..	4 2 0	22nd December, 1921	..	2 1 0
12th May, 1922	..	3 18 0	9th October, 1922	..	1 19 6
10th April, 1923	..	3 19 0	(a) ..	..	2 0 0
7th September, 1923	..	4 2 0	..	..	2 1 6
24th August, 1925	..	4 4 0	..	..	2 2 6
27th June, 1927	..	4 5 0	..	..	2 6 0
20th December, 1929	..	4 2 6	..	..	2 4 6
26th August, 1932	..	3 10 0	..	..	1 18 0
11th April, 1933	..	3 8 6	..	..	1 17 0
20th October, 1933	..	3 6 6	..	..	1 16 0
26th April, 1934	..	3 7 6	..	..	1 16 6
18th April, 1935	..	3 8 6	..	..	1 17 0
24th April, 1936	..	3 9 0	..	..	(b) 1 17 6
27th October, 1936	..	3 10 0	..	..	1 18 0
24th April, 1937	..	3 11 6(c)	..	..	1 18 6

(a) Dates of declarations from 1923 on were the same as those for male rate.

(b) Rate declared, £1 15s. 6d., but law amended to provide a rate for females at 54 per cent. of that of males.

(c) Hereafter wages are fixed and adjusted quarterly in accordance with the practice of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for details of which and latest rates see below.

Following on the judgment of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court referred to on page 76, the Government of New South Wales decided to bring the State Basic Wage into line with the Federal rates ruling in the State, and secured an amendment of the Industrial Arbitration

Act (No. 9 of 1937) to give effect thereto. The Act was passed on 7th October, 1937, and came into operation from the commencement of the first pay period in October, practically from 1st October, 1937. The general principles laid down by the Commonwealth Court were followed as closely as practicable and provision was made for the automatic adjustment of wages in conformity with variations of retail prices as shown by the Commonwealth Court's "All Items" Retail Price Index-Numbers, shortly known as the "Court" Series of Index-Numbers. The Commonwealth Court's principle of treating the "prosperity loadings" as a separate and non-adjustable part of the total basic wage was adopted. The rates for country towns were, with certain exceptions fixed at 3s. per week below the metropolitan rate; and Crown employees, as defined, received a "prosperity loading" of 5s. per week, as against the 6s. laid down for employees in outside industry. The provisions of the main Acts for the periodic declaration of the living wage by the Industrial Commission were repealed, but the amending Act placed on the Commission the responsibility of altering all awards and agreements in conformity with the intentions of the new Act; to define boundaries within which the various rates are to operate; and to specify the appropriate "Court" Series retail price index-numbers to which they are to be related.

Compared with State adult basic wages of £3 11s. 6d. per week for males, and £1 18s. 6d. for females operative at the time, the alteration represented for males increases of 6s. 6d. in Sydney; 3s. 6d. in Country districts (with certain exceptions); and 4s. 6d. for railway and other Crown employees as defined by the Act. For females the increases were 54 per cent. of the foregoing, and amounted to 3s. 6d., 2s., and 2s. 6d., respectively.

The rates applicable in the metropolitan area under this system of fixation and adjustment are £4 2s. per week for adult males, and £2 4s. od. for adult females, from the first pay period commencing in December, 1939.

The principle of supplementing wages by a payment in respect of dependent children under fourteen years of age is operative in New South Wales, and a brief account of the main features of the system appears in par. 5.

(ii) *Victoria*.—Up to October, 1934, no basic wage was fixed by any State authority in Victoria, but the Wages Boards followed the rates of the Federal Court to a large extent, and also made similar periodical adjustments to variations in retail prices. With the passing of The Factories and Shops Acts, Nos. 4,275 of 1934 (proclaimed to come into operation on 17th October, 1934) and 4461 of 1936, it is now obligatory on all Wages Boards to adopt Federal Award rates and conditions "which such Boards are under the Factory and Shops Acts empowered to include in their determinations". The Act further provides for the Secretary for Labour to make adjustments of wages according to variations in retail price index-numbers without calling the Boards together for the purpose, in respect of all Determinations which include an adjustment clause.

The latest federal rate for Melbourne is 80s. per week for males operative from 1st December, 1939, and the female rate approximately 54 per cent. of that or £2 3s. od.

(iii) *Queensland*.—The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act (No. 28) of 1929, repealed the Industrial Arbitration Act 1916 and amendments thereof, and the Basic Wage Act of 1925. The Board of Trade and Arbitration was abolished, and a Court, called the Industrial Court, was established.

The Act provides that it shall be the duty of the Court to make declarations as to—(a) the “basic” wage, and (b) the maximum weekly hours to be worked in industry (called the “standard” hours). For the purposes of making any such declarations the Court shall be constituted by the Judge and the two Conciliation Commissioners.

The main provisions to be observed by the Court when determining the “basic” wage are—(a) the minimum wage of an adult male employee shall be not less than is sufficient to maintain a well-conducted employee of average health, strength and competence, and his wife and a family of three children in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the conditions of living prevailing among employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed, and provided that the earnings of the children or wife of such employee shall not be taken into account; (b) the minimum wage of an adult female employee shall be not less than is sufficient to enable her to support herself in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the nature of her duties and to the conditions of living prevailing among female employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed. The Court shall, in the matter of making declarations in regard to the “basic” wage or “standard” hours, take into consideration the probable economic effect of such declaration in relation to the community in general, and the probable economic effect thereof upon industry or any industry or industries concerned.

The first formal declaration by the Industrial Arbitration Court in this State of a minimum wage was gazetted on 24th February, 1921, when the basic wage was declared at £4 5s. per week for adult males, and £2 3s. for adult females. Prior to this declaration the rate of £3 17s. per week for adult males had been generally recognized by the Court in its awards as the “basic” or “living” wage. The declarations of the Industrial Court are published in the Queensland Industrial Gazette and the various rates declared are as follows:—

#### Basic Wage Variations in Queensland.

Date of Operation.	Adult Basic Wage.	
	Male.	Female.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1st March, 1921 .. .. .	4 5 0	2 3 0
1st March, 1922 .. .. .	4 0 0	2 1 0
28th September, 1925 (a) .. .. .	4 5 0	2 3 0
1st August, 1930 .. .. .	4 0 0	2 1 0
1st December, 1930 .. .. .	3 17 0	1 19 6
1st July, 1931 .. .. .	3 14 0	1 19 0
1st April, 1937 .. .. .	3 18 0	2 1 0
1st April, 1938 .. .. .	4 1 0	2 3 0
7th August, 1939 .. .. .	4 4 0	2 5 0

(a) Fixed by Basic Wage Act.

The rates shown above are applicable throughout the South-Eastern Division of the State; allowances are added for the following divisions:—Northern, 10s.; North-Western, 17s. 4d.; Mackay, 5s. 6d.; and South-Western, 7s. 4d. Half of these allowances are granted to females.

(iv) *South Australia*.—The Industrial Code 1920-1937 provides that the Board of Industry shall, after public inquiry as to the increase or decrease in the average cost of living, declare the “living” wage to be paid to adult male employees and to adult female employees. The Board has power also to fix different rates to be paid in different defined areas.

It is provided that the Board of Industry shall hold an inquiry for the purpose of declaring the "living" wage whenever a substantial change in the cost of living or any other circumstance has, in the opinion of the Board, rendered it just and expedient to review the question of the "living" wage, but a new determination cannot be made by the Board until the expiration of at least six months from the date of its previous determination.

The Board of Industry consists of five members, one nominated by the Minister for Industry, two nominated by the South Australian Employers' Federation as representatives of employers, and two nominated by the United Trades and Labour Council of South Australia as representatives of employees. The member nominated by the Minister is President and presides at all meetings of the Board.

According to the Industrial Code 1920-1937, "living wage" means a sum sufficient for the normal and reasonable needs of the average employee living in the locality where the work under consideration is done or is to be done.

The family unit is not specifically defined in the Code, but it is stated that the South Australian Industrial Court in 1920 definitely decided that the "average employee" in respect of whom the "living" wage is to be declared is a man with a wife and three children.

The first declaration of the "living" wage was made by the Board of Industry on the 15th July, 1921, when the "living" wage for adult male employees in the metropolitan area was determined at £3 19s. 6d. per week. The "living" wage for adult female employees in the same area was declared on the 11th August, 1921, at £1 15s. per week.

The variations in the living wages determined by the Board of Industry are shown below :—

Basic Wage Variations in South Australia.

Male.		Female.	
Date of Operation.	Basic Wage per Week.	Date of Operation.	Basic Wage per Week.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
4th August, 1921 ..	3 19 6	1st September, 1921 ..	1 15 0
27th April, 1922 ..	3 17 6	..	..
8th November, 1923 ..	3 18 6	..	..
15th May, 1924 ..	4 2 0	13th November, 1924 ..	1 18 0
13th August, 1925 ..	4 5 6	3rd September, 1925 ..	1 19 6
30th October, 1930 ..	3 15 0	15th January, 1931 ..	1 15 0
10th September, 1931 ..	3 3 0	24th December, 1931 ..	1 1 6
7th November, 1935 ..	3 6 0	16th January, 1936 ..	1 13 0
7th January, 1937 ..	3 9 6	29th April, 1937 ..	1 14 9
25th November, 1937 ..	3 14 0	25th November, 1937 ..	1 16 6
5th January, 1939 ..	3 18 0	5th January, 1939 ..	1 18 0

(v) *Western Australia.*—The Court of Arbitration, appointed under the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912-1937, determines and declares the "basic" wage in this State. The Court consists of three members appointed by the Governor, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employers, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employees, while the third member is a Judge of the Supreme Court. The last-mentioned member is the President of the Court.

The Industrial Arbitration Act 1912-1937 provides that, before the 14th June in every year, the Court, of its own motion, shall determine and declare—(a) a "basic" wage to operate from the 1st July of each year, to be paid to male and female workers; and (b) wherever and whenever necessary, differential basic rates to be paid in special or defined areas of the State.

The expression "basic" wage means a sum sufficient to enable the average worker to whom it applies to live in reasonable comfort, having regard to any domestic obligation to which such average worker would be ordinarily subject. The family unit is not specifically defined in the Act, but it has been the practice of the Court to take as a basis of its calculations a man, his wife and two dependent children.

Provision is made in the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act of 1930 for quarterly adjustments of the "basic" wage by the Court of Arbitration when an official statement supplied to the Court by the State Government Statistician relating to the cost of living shows that a variation of 1s. or more per week has occurred, compared with the preceding quarter. These adjustments apply from the dates of declaration by the Court.

The first declaration of the "basic" wage by the Court of Arbitration since the authority to fix one was vested in the Court by the Industrial Arbitration Act of 1925 was made on the 11th June, 1926, when the rate for adult male employees was determined at £4 5s. per week, and for adult female employees at £2 5s. 11d. per week.

The variations in the annual declarations of the Court of Arbitration are shown in the following table:—

Basic Wage Variations in Western Australia.

Date of Operation.	Metropolitan Area.		South-West Land Division.		Gold-fields Areas and Other Parts of State.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1st July, 1926 ..	4 5 0	2 5 11	4 5 0	2 5 11	4 5 0	2 5 11
1st July, 1929 ..	4 7 0	2 7 0	4 7 0	2 7 0	4 7 0	2 7 0
1st July, 1930 ..	4 6 0	2 6 5	4 5 0	2 5 11	4 5 0	2 5 11
1st July, 1931 ..	3 18 0	2 2 2	3 17 0	2 1 8	3 17 0	2 1 8
1st July, 1932 ..	3 12 0	1 18 11	3 13 6	1 19 8	3 18 0	2 2 2
1st July, 1933 ..	3 8 0	1 16 9	3 9 6	1 17 6	3 17 6	2 1 10
1st July, 1934 ..	3 9 6	1 17 6	3 10 0	1 17 10	3 19 6	2 2 11
1st July, 1935 ..	3 10 6	1 18 1	3 11 2	1 18 5	4 4 4	2 5 6
1st July, 1936 ..	3 10 6	1 18 1	3 11 9	1 18 9	4 6 0	2 6 5
1st July, 1937 ..	3 13 9	1 19 10	3 14 8	2 0 4	4 7 0	2 7 0
1st July, 1938 ..	4 0 0	2 3 2	4 1 0	2 3 9	4 13 3	2 10 4
1st July, 1939 ..	b4 2 2	b2 4 4	4 3 1	2 4 10	b4 16 4	b2 12 0

(a) Excluding Gold-fields areas, where rates were the same as those operating from 1st July, 1926.

(b) Applicable from 24th April, 1939.

The latest rates payable in accordance with the quarterly adjustments declared by the Court are the same as those shown above.

(vi) *Tasmania*.—No State basic wage is fixed by any State authority in Tasmania, but Wages Boards follow to a large extent the rates of the Federal Court, and adjust wages in accordance with variations in retail price index-numbers. The latest Federal rate for Hobart is £3 17s. operative from 1st December, 1939.

(vii) *Rates Prescribed*.—The "basic" wage rates of State industrial tribunals at present in force are summarized in the following table:—

**Basic Weekly Wage Rates fixed by State Industrial Tribunals.**

State.	"Basic" Wage.		Date of Operation.	Family Unit (for Male Rate).
	Males.	Females.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
New South Wales ..	(a) 4 2 0	2 4 0	1.12.39	Man, wife, and child
Victoria ..	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Queensland ..	(c) 4 4 0	2 5 0	7.8.39	Man, wife, and three children
South Australia ..	3 18 0	1 18 0	5.1.39	" " " "
Western Australia ..	(d) 4 2 2	2 4 4	24.4.39	" " two "
Tasmania ..	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)

(a) Sydney, Newcastle, Port-Kembla—Wollongong, Broken Hill—Males, £4 2s.; Females £2 4s. 0d.; Elsewhere—Males £3 19s. 0d.; Females £2 2s. 6d. Male wage plus child allowances.

(b) None declared, but follow Federal rates to large extent.

(c) South-Eastern Division. Allowances are added for other Divisions:—Northern, 10s.; North-Western, 17s. 4d.; Mackay, 5s. 6d.; and South-Western, 7s. 4d. Half of these allowances are granted to females.

(d) Metropolitan area. "Basic" wage for Gold-fields area and other portions of State exclusive of the S.W. Land Division—Males, £4 16s. 4d.; Females, £2 12s. Agricultural Areas and S.W. Land Division (operative from 1st July, 1939)—Males, £4 3s. 1d.; Females, £2 4s. 10d.

4. **Royal Commission on Basic Wage, 1920.**—The Commonwealth Government appointed a Royal Commission in 1919 to inquire into the actual cost of living at that time, according to reasonable standards of comfort including all matters comprised in the ordinary expenditure of a household, for a man, wife and three children under fourteen years of age. The Commission made inquiries in each State, and its report, issued in 1920, recommended the following amounts for the various capital cities, viz.:—

	£	s.	d.
Sydney ..	5	17	1
Melbourne ..	5	16	6
Brisbane ..	5	6	2
Adelaide ..	5	16	1
Perth ..	5	13	11
Hobart ..	5	16	11
Six Capitals (Weighted Average) ..	5	15	8

The recommendations of this Commission were not carried out, owing largely to the marked advance of the amounts suggested over ruling rates\* and the grave doubts expressed as to the ability of industry to pay such rates.

5. **Child Endowment.**—(i) *General.*—The principle of supplementing wages by a payment in respect of dependent children under fourteen years of age has assumed importance in Australia, and is in operation in certain instances.

(ii) *The New South Wales Scheme.*—The first attempt in Australia to institute the system was made in New South Wales in 1919, when a Bill was introduced into the State Parliament to provide a flat basic wage for a man and wife, and an allowance of 5s. per week for each child, the latter rate to be reduced on a sliding scale and to cease when the income reached an amount of £3 per week above the basic wage. The Bill was rejected, but the subject again came up in the session of 1926–27, when Acts, which have

\* The "Harvester" equivalent for Melbourne as at the time (September quarter, 1920) was £4 13s. per week, but only £3 18s. to £4 2s. was being paid on the basis of an annual index number.



been amended during subsequent years, provided for the payment of child allowances. These allowances were paid as from 23rd July, 1927. Prior to December, 1929, the Act provided for (a) the declaration of a basic wage, and (b) the payment of an allowance of 5s. per week in respect of each dependent child, subject to the provision that child allowances were to be paid only to the extent to which the total earnings of the worker and his family fell short of the sum represented by the *basic wage* plus child allowance at the rate of 5s. per week for each child. The amending Act, assented to on the 23rd December, 1929, provides that, subject to the last-mentioned provision, child endowment shall be 5s. per week for each child except one in the family. Payments of child allowances in New South Wales were made from a fund created by a levy on the total amount of wages paid by employers. The rate of tax during 1930 was fixed at 1 per cent. From the 1st July, 1931, the rate was fixed at 2 per cent., and from 1st January, 1932, at the rate of 5d. in the £ on all wages above £3 per week. The amount of levy collected during 1932-33 was £2,409,034, and £2,105,659 was paid away in allowances to 63,072 families. The levy was discontinued as from 1st January, 1934, the cost of endowment being met from the Special Income and Wages Tax (see p. 121), which is also used for other social services.

(iii) *Commonwealth Public Service*.—The first system of child endowment in Australia was instituted within the Commonwealth Public Service. It came into operation on 1st November, 1920, when, following on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage,\* the Commonwealth Government decided to pay allowances to officers at the rate of 5s. per week for each dependent child under fourteen years of age, with a limit of £400 per annum on salary plus allowance. As the result of proceedings before the Public Service Arbitrator in 1923, these allowances were confirmed as a permanent part of the salary scheme, and the necessary fund to meet them was created by deducting the average value of the payment from the basic wage of all adult officers. In effect, therefore, the officers are themselves providing the fund from which the allowance is paid. The deduction was originally £11 per annum, but is now £12. The payment of the allowance in the Service is now limited to officers receiving from salary and allowance an amount not greater than £500 per annum. Further details regarding the introduction and method of calculating the payments will be found in Labour Report No. 17, and later Reports.

## CHAPTER IV.—EMPLOYMENT.

### § 1. Industrial Disputes.

1. *General*.—The collection of information regarding industrial disputes (strikes and lockouts) in Australia was initiated by this Bureau at the beginning of the year 1913, and particulars relating thereto, for the first complete year, were published in Labour Report No. 5, Section XI. An examination of official reports, newspapers, and other publications showed, however, that there was insufficient material for the compilation of complete information for years prior to 1913.

\* The Chairman of the Commission (Mr. A. B. Piddington, K.C.) in a Supplementary Report suggested that the wage of £5 16s. recommended by the Commission be split up into a flat basic wage payment of £4, and a child endowment of 12s. per week for each child, the fund for the payment of the latter allowance to be created by a tax on employers of 10s. 9d. per week per employee.



Annual figures for years since 1913 are contained in Labour Reports Nos. 6 to 28 while particulars for the year 1938 are furnished in the present Report.

2. **Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1938.**—The following table deals with industrial disputes involving stoppage of work during the year 1938 in industrial groups. A list of the 14 groups included in the classification will be found in the preface.

The number of industrial disputes recorded during 1938 was 376, as compared with 342 during the previous year. In New South Wales 340 disputes occurred, 302 of which involved workpeople engaged in the coal-mining industry. Working days lost during 1938 amounted to 1,337,994 for all disputes in Australia, as compared with 557,111 working days lost during 1937. The estimated loss of wages was £1,303,820 in 1938, as compared with £506,745 for year 1937.

### Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1938.

Class.	Industrial Group.	Num-ber.	Estab-lish-ments In-volved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Esti-mated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	In-directly.	Total.		
<b>New South Wales—</b>								
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	13	18	1,171	2,591	3,762	217,686	£ 180,743
III.	Food, drink, etc. . .	8	10	3,260	145	3,405	6,495	5,969
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. . .	1	1	217	..	217	8,246	6,185
VI.	Other manufacturing . . .	5	5	390	130	520	11,723	9,043
VIII.	(a) Coal-mining . . .	302	438	109,219	3,798	113,017	719,310	768,799
	(b) Other mining, quarries, etc.	5	5	1,570	..	1,570	6,474	6,903
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. . .	2	2	273	1,490	1,763	58,805	34,811
XIV.	Miscellaneous . . .	4	4	278	6	284	688	462
	Total . . .	340	483	116,378	8,160	124,538	1,029,427	1,012,915
<b>Victoria—</b>								
I.	Wood, saw-mills, etc. . .	2	2	72	11	83	5,412	4,670
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc. . .	3	3	414	15	429	14,027	13,300
III.	Food, drink, etc. . .	1	1	19	..	19	57	46
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. . .	6	13	2,003	1,736	3,739	25,520	15,348
VII.	Building . . .	2	12	920	850	1,770	9,520	8,847
VIII.	(a) Coal-mining . . .	5	7	4,250	..	4,250	49,800	45,384
	Total . . .	19	38	7,678	2,612	10,290	104,336	87,595
<b>Queensland—</b>								
VIII.	(a) Coal-mining . . .	3	7	2,635	..	2,635	87,298	87,166
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. . .	1	1	13	..	13	169	148
XIV.	Miscellaneous . . .	1	1	9	..	9	72	65
	Total . . .	5	9	2,657	..	2,657	87,539	87,379
<b>South Australia—</b>								
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc. . .	1	1	31	..	31	155	120
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. . .	1	1	42	52	94	94	103
	Total . . .	2	2	73	52	125	249	223
<b>Western Australia—</b>								
I.	Wood, saw-mills, etc. . .	1	1	400	..	400	4,000	3,200
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc. . .	2	2	97	120	217	741	598
VII.	Building . . .	1	15	2,000	500	2,500	25,000	23,000
	(a) Coal-mining . . .	2	2	277	..	277	277	280
VIII.	(b) Other mining, quarries, etc.	1	1	220	30	250	13,750	16,200
	Total . . .	7	21	2,994	650	3,644	43,768	43,278

## Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1938—continued.

Class.	Industrial Group.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
VIII.	Tasmania— (a) Coal-mining .. ..	2	4	2,200	..	2,200	72,175	£ 72,030
XIV.	Northern Territory— Miscellaneous .. ..	1	1	500	..	500	500	400
	Australia—							
I.	Wood, saw-mills, etc. ..	3	3	472	11	483	9,412	7,870
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc. ..	19	24	1,713	2,726	4,439	232,609	194,761
III.	Food, drink, etc. ..	9	11	3,279	145	3,424	6,552	6,015
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc. ..	7	14	2,220	1,736	3,956	33,766	21,533
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	5	5	390	130	520	11,723	9,043
VII.	Building .. ..	3	27	2,920	1,350	4,270	34,520	31,847
VIII.	(a) Coal-mining .. ..	314	458	118,581	3,798	122,379	928,860	973,659
	(b) Other mining, quarries, etc. ..	6	6	1,790	30	1,820	20,224	23,103
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	4	4	328	1,542	1,870	59,068	35,062
XIV.	Miscellaneous .. ..	6	6	787	6	793	1,260	927
	Total(c) .. ..	376	558	132,480	11,474	143,954	1,337,994	1,303,820

(c) The following disputes commenced in, and were uncompleted at the end of, the year 1937, and in respect of "No. of Disputes" and "No. of Establishments" are duplicated in the figures for 1938, viz. :—

State.	No of Disputes.	No. of Establishments.	No. of Workpeople Involved.
New South Wales .. ..	1	2	380
Tasmania .. ..	1	4	203
Total .. ..	2	6	583

**3. Particulars of Principal Disputes in 1938.**—(i) *General.*—The preceding tables show the number and effect of all disputes for the year 1938 classified according to Industrial Groups. The figures show an increase compared with those of the previous year as regards number of working days and amount of wages lost. The tables show that of the total number of disputes (376) which occurred in 1938, no less than 314 were in connexion with the coal-mining industry, and of these 302 occurred in New South Wales. The total loss of wages through all disputes in Australia was £1,303,820. The loss through 302 disputes in the coal-mining industry in New South Wales was £768,799, or 59 per cent. of the total loss in wages for Australia.

(ii) *Details regarding Principal Disputes.*—The losses in working days for all disputes for the year amounted to 1,337,994. Brief particulars of the disputes mainly responsible for losses in working days and wages in 1938 are given below :—

*Interstate.*—Disputes which extend beyond the limits of a single State, while in some cases extensive, are comparatively few in number. These disputes rarely start on an interstate basis, but develop into such through the interdependence of trade union organizations.

During the year 1938 one dispute of an interstate nature occurred. This dispute, which commenced in September, affected the coal-mining industry in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania, the refusal of the colliery proprietors to accept a log of claims served on behalf of their employees being given as the cause.

The following concessions were demanded :—

- (1) A five day week of six hours a day without a reduction in pay.
- (2) All workers employed on piecework or contract to be guaranteed a minimum wage.

- (3) The various Governments to introduce a special Compensation Act to cover the coal-mining industry.
- (4) Mine workers, on reaching the age of 60 years, to receive a pension of two pounds per week.
- (5) Employees to be paid for fourteen days' holiday annually.
- (6) Wages to be paid weekly.

A compulsory conference ordered by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration on 23rd September proved abortive and the dispute was referred into Court. On 4th October, the New South Wales Minister for Labour and Industry called a conference in the hope that a basis of settlement could be arrived at, and on the 10th a compulsory conference was summoned by the Queensland State Industrial Court at Brisbane. The lastmentioned conference was adjourned indefinitely, but as a result of the conference called by the New South Wales Minister for Labour and Industry a basis of settlement was unanimously agreed to by representatives of all the unions involved.

The terms of settlement, which were ratified at mass meetings of the employees, were—

- (1) That the hearing of the commission of inquiry into health and safety in mines shall be concluded as quickly as possible.
- (2) Purely industrial matters to be referred for determination by arbitration.
- (3) That consideration of the most suitable form of pensions commission shall be immediately taken up with the combined union's representatives in the four States involved.

Work was resumed after a stoppage lasting five weeks and directly affecting approximately 21,000 workpeople.

*New South Wales.*—Dissatisfaction with the terms of an award made by the State Arbitration Court was the cause of a dispute involving 1,500 members of the Federated Ironworkers' Union at Lysaghts' Works, Newcastle, in January, 1938. After negotiations to arrange a conference between the parties had failed, a conference presided over by Mr. Justice Cantor was held, but no finality was reached. A suggestion by the Judge, that more progress might be made if he discussed the matter separately with each party, was agreed to, and after several interviews had been held a satisfactory basis of settlement was reached. After a stoppage of fourteen weeks, work was resumed under award conditions pending an application to the Industrial Court.

In February, 1938, a demand for a 5 per cent. increase on award rates for all shiftworkers involved in a dispute moulders employed by the Commonwealth Steel Company at Waratah. At a compulsory conference convened by the Commonwealth Industrial Registrar a proposal that they resume on a day work basis pending an application to the Court was accepted by the employees and work was resumed after a stoppage of more than thirteen weeks.

A dispute lasting nearly five months and involving 65 engineers employed by the Australian Gas Light Company at Mortlake, occurred in May, 1938. Work ceased after a claim for an increase of five shillings per week on the rates being paid under an industrial agreement had been rejected by the Company. At a compulsory conference convened by the State Arbitration Court it was suggested that the men should return to work and submit their claims to the Industrial Commission, but the proposal was

rejected. Direct negotiations proving abortive a settlement was arrived at through the intervention of a member of the State Government. The industry was not seriously affected by the dispute.

Refusal to load a cargo of pig iron for Japan alleged to be intended for the manufacture of arms for use in war, was given as the cause of a dispute in November, 1938, which lasted for approximately eight weeks and involved members of the Waterside Workers' Union at Port Kembla. After several unsuccessful attempts at settlement by direct negotiation the Commonwealth Government applied the licensing provisions of the Transport Workers' Act to Port Kembla.

This action did not have the desired effect as no applications for licences were received. A conference arranged subsequently between Commonwealth Government officials and Union representatives agreed to the following proposals :—

- (1) Waterside workers to load the disputed cargo.
- (2) Conditionally upon the unionists accepting the first proposal the application of the licensing provisions of the Transport Workers' Act to be discontinued.
- (3) Arrangements to be made for Trade Unions to submit to the Prime Minister and Attorney-General questions of policy relative to the export of iron from Australia.

The proposals on being submitted to a meeting of unionists were at first rejected, but ultimately work was resumed under conditions agreed to by conference.

*Victoria.*—The alleged victimization of employees and a demand for a five-day week involved timber workers in a dispute at Hayden Bros.' Saw Mill, Barwon Downs, in April, 1938. An application to the Commonwealth Arbitration Court for the suspension of the Timber Workers' Award was made by the employers, but after hearing had commenced the Chief Judge suggested a conference between the parties. This was agreed to and terms of settlement arrived at, work being resumed after a stoppage of about thirteen weeks.

The refusal of a claim for an increase of six shillings per week on all marginal rates which was included in a log of claims served on the State Electricity Commission by the Amalgamated Engineering Union was given as the cause of a dispute at Yallourn in June, 1938. A conference was held at which the Commission presented their terms of settlement which included a service grant to employees with four or more years of service ; cumulative sick leave up to a maximum of sixteen days ; an extra three shillings per week for motor mechanics and double time for work on Sundays and statutory holidays. The proposals were at first rejected by the employees but later negotiations between the Trades Hall Disputes Committee and the Commission resulted in an agreement being reached after a stoppage of approximately thirteen weeks.

*Western Australia.*—Refusal to reinstate an employee who was dismissed for allegedly doing insufficient work caused a stoppage of work at the Lancefield Gold Mine in March, 1938. A conference was held but no satisfactory result was attained. The dispute was eventually settled through the mediation of a member of the Legislative Council, who suggested that the Assistant President of the State Arbitration Court should adjudicate on the question of victimization. This proposal was agreed to by the employees and work was resumed after a stoppage of about eight weeks.

4. **Industrial Disputes, 1934 to 1938.**—(i) *Australia.*—The following table shows in industrial groups the number of industrial disputes, the number of workpeople involved, and the losses in working days and wages for each of the years 1934 to 1938, and the aggregate for the whole period :—

**Industrial Disputes : Australia.**

Year.	Manu- facturing. (Groups I. to VI.)	Building. (Group VII.)	Mining. (Group VIII.)		Transport, Land and Sea. (Groups IX. to XI.)	Miscel- laneous. (Groups XII. to XIV.)	ALL GROUPS
			Coal- Mining.	Other Mining.			
NUMBER.							
1934 ..	13	1	91	9	6	35	155
1935 ..	21	4	108	9	21	20	183
1936 ..	30	3	171	13	3	15	235
1937 ..	59	2	249	12	6	14	342
1938 ..	43	3	314	6	4	6	376
1934-38 ..	166	13	933	49	40	90	1,291

**WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.**

1934 ..	7,284	54	23,622	7,862	3,169	8,867	50,858
1935 ..	4,086	49	31,519	2,795	6,142	2,731	47,322
1936 ..	5,480	581	45,600	7,022	375	1,529	60,587
1937 ..	17,353	30	72,492	3,543	574	2,181	96,173
1938 ..	12,822	4,270	122,379	1,820	1,870	793	143,954
1934-38 ..	47,025	4,984	295,612	23,042	12,130	16,101	398,894

**WORKING DAYS LOST.**

1934 ..	73,878	108	190,363	41,800	14,002	50,235	370,386
1935 ..	62,423	1,294	162,633	64,824	100,774	103,176	495,124
1936 ..	199,641	2,337	224,113	37,582	8,087	25,488	497,248
1937 ..	214,869	180	307,699	20,736	2,959	10,668	557,111
1938 ..	294,062	34,520	928,860	20,224	59,068	1,260	1,337,994
1934-38 ..	844,873	38,439	1,813,668	185,166	184,890	190,827	3,257,863

**ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES.**

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1934 ..	49,364	80	186,027	37,896	10,164	34,328	317,859
1935 ..	47,079	1,143	164,648	57,791	61,249	58,686	390,596
1936 ..	160,259	1,846	249,767	36,408	5,480	15,065	468,825
1937 ..	165,618	211	313,052	20,133	2,572	5,159	506,745
1938 ..	239,222	31,847	973,659	23,103	35,062	927	1,303,820
1934-38 ..	661,542	35,127	1,887,153	175,331	114,527	114,165	2,987,845

Satisfactory comparisons of the frequency of industrial disputes in classified industries can be made only after omitting those which are recorded for coal-mining (Group VIII.). For the year 1938 these disputes represented 84 per cent. of the total for the year.

During the past five years, working days lost through dislocations of work involving employees in coal-mining numbered 1,813,668, representing 56 per cent. of the total loss of working days for the period. The majority of these disputes occurred in New South Wales. In making comparisons regarding the number and magnitude of disputes in this particular class it should be noted that the number of workers engaged in the coal-mining industry is very much larger in New South Wales than in any of the other States.

(ii) *States*.—The number of industrial disputes in each State during the years 1934 to 1938, together with the workpeople involved, the working days lost, and the estimated loss in wages are given hereunder.

## Industrial Disputes : States.

State or Territory.	Year.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	In-directly.	Total.		
								£
New South Wales	1934	117	129	33,065	2,943	36,008	213,753	196,265
	1935	134	162	31,350	2,055	33,405	301,345	237,707
	1936	188	231	50,557	1,728	52,285	432,513	414,375
	1937	296	391	84,323	3,515	87,838	434,617	403,158
	1938	340	483	116,378	8,160	124,538	1,029,427	1,012,915
Victoria	1934	19	84	8,074	354	8,428	108,872	82,438
	1935	20	30	7,658	243	7,901	45,713	31,280
	1936	10	22	1,599	224	1,823	12,251	9,890
	1937	11	11	3,770	44	3,814	70,753	57,182
	1938	19	38	7,678	2,612	10,290	104,336	87,595
Queensland	1934	7	830	2,453	420	2,873	29,718	24,200
	1935	13	29	1,794	201	1,995	73,351	57,960
	1936	12	12	1,052	194	1,246	14,953	12,325
	1937	10	11	792	203	995	15,681	15,699
	1938	5	9	2,657	..	2,657	87,539	87,379
South Australia	1934	1	1	44	..	44	11	17
	1935	3	5	340	..	340	2,463	1,557
	1936	1	1	101	..	101	505	400
	1937	6	15	1,257	52	1,309	3,951	2,404
	1938	2	2	73	52	125	249	223
Western Australia	1934	10	16	3,309	176	3,485	17,792	14,699
	1935	11	29	3,597	6	3,603	71,976	61,901
	1936	19	49	3,408	1,309	4,717	32,408	27,714
	1937	12	45	1,445	220	1,665	14,397	12,570
	1938	7	21	2,994	650	3,644	43,768	43,278
Tasmania	1934	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1935	1	1	70	4	74	148	91
	1936	4	4	369	6	375	3,718	3,212
	1937	4	7	374	5	379	17,016	14,964
	1938	2	4	2,200	..	2,200	72,173	72,030
Northern Territory	1934	1	1	18	2	20	240	240
	1935	1	1	4	..	4	128	100
	1936	1	1	32	8	40	1,200	900
	1937	3	3	160	13	173	696	708
	1938	1	1	500	..	500	500	400
Aust. Cap. Territory	1934	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1935	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1936	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1937	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1938	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Australia	1934	155	1,061	46,063	3,895	50,858	370,386	317,859
	1935	183	257	44,813	2,509	47,322	495,124	390,596
	1936	235	320	57,118	3,469	60,587	497,248	468,825
	1937	342	483	92,121	4,052	96,173	557,111	506,745
	1938	376	558	132,480	11,474	143,954	1,337,994	1,303,820

5. *Duration of Industrial Disputes*.—(i) *General*.—The duration of each industrial dispute involving a loss of work, i.e., the time between the cessation and resumption of work, has been calculated in working days, exclusive of

Sundays and holidays, except where the establishment involved carries on a continuous process (e.g., Metal Smelting and Cement Manufacture). The following limitations of time have been adopted:—(a) One day or less; (b) two days and more than one day; (c) three days and more than two days; (d) over three days and under six days (the latter considered as constituting one week); (e) one week and under two weeks; (f) two weeks and under four weeks; (g) four weeks and under eight weeks; and (h) eight weeks and over.

(ii) *Australia*—1934 to 1938.—Particulars of industrial disputes, according to limits of duration, for Australia for the years 1934 to 1938 are given in the table appended:—

Duration of Industrial Disputes : Australia.

Limits of Duration.	Year.	Num- ber.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
			Directly.	In- directly.	Total.		
1 day and less .. ..	1934	53	14,773	807	15,580	15,547	£ 16,295
	1935	50	13,619	570	14,189	14,189	14,977
	1936	89	20,378	845	21,223	21,223	23,504
	1937	140	41,050	966	42,016	42,016	44,649
	1938	196	68,015	813	68,828	68,828	77,346
2 days and more than 1 day ..	1934	19	3,087	175	3,262	6,524	6,166
	1935	34	8,173	327	8,500	17,000	16,959
	1936	37	9,176	403	9,579	19,156	20,382
	1937	72	17,695	307	18,002	36,004	36,749
	1938	56	15,928	462	16,390	32,780	33,069
3 days and more than 2 days ..	1934	13	4,249	72	4,321	12,815	11,544
	1935	12	2,900	206	3,106	9,318	9,555
	1936	19	4,636	685	5,321	15,963	16,923
	1937	20	5,776	55	5,831	17,493	19,444
	1938	38	8,869	793	9,662	28,986	31,233
Over 3 days and less than 1 week (6 days) .. ..	1934	22	11,383	256	11,639	50,481	43,435
	1935	15	2,333	132	2,465	10,780	11,076
	1936	33	8,252	545	8,797	38,170	38,853
	1937	37	11,041	1,177	12,218	56,114	53,330
	1938	27	6,469	675	7,144	31,558	33,159
1 week and less than 2 weeks ..	1934	22	5,505	707	6,212	52,031	46,608
	1935	29	4,727	108	4,835	41,966	38,043
	1936	25	6,774	173	6,947	46,511	48,248
	1937	40	7,312	947	8,259	62,352	60,061
	1938	30	7,826	5,971	13,797	115,605	98,218
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks	1934	16	4,230	1,743	5,973	88,351	78,063
	1935	20	4,910	817	5,727	88,499	68,454
	1936	16	2,884	424	3,308	53,261	46,705
	1937	16	3,418	202	3,620	52,241	44,986
	1938	11	1,461	101	1,562	23,534	21,256
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks	1934	8	2,603	110	2,713	70,053	57,498
	1935	14	6,541	185	6,726	170,255	134,693
	1936	10	1,170	114	1,284	37,704	28,671
	1937	9	3,546	218	3,764	129,688	95,807
	1938	13	23,376	1,327	24,703	887,172	883,426
8 weeks and over .. ..	1934	2	1,133	25	1,158	74,584	58,250
	1935	9	1,610	164	1,774	143,117	96,839
	1936	6	3,848	280	4,128	265,260	245,479
	1937	8	2,283	180	2,463	161,203	151,719
	1938	5	536	1,332	1,868	149,531	126,113
Total .. ..	1934	155	46,063	3,895	50,858	370,386	317,859
	1935	183	44,813	2,509	47,322	495,124	390,596
	1936	235	57,118	3,469	60,587	497,248	468,825
	1937	342	92,121	4,052	96,173	557,111	506,745
	1938	376	132,480	11,474	143,954	1,337,994	1,303,820



6. **Causes of Industrial Disputes.**—(i) *General.*—The reasons alleged by employers and employees for a stoppage of work do not in every instance agree in detail. In such instances additional information is sought to verify or support the contention of either side. On occasions, the alleged reason is of a twofold character, and, where this is the case, the claim which is fully or partially satisfied and results in a resumption of work is taken to be the principal cause of the dispute. For the purpose of classification these causes (or objects) of industrial disputes are grouped under seven main headings, viz.:—(1) Wages; (2) hours of labour; (3) trade unionism; (4) employment of particular classes or persons; (5) working conditions; (6) sympathy; and (7) other causes.\* The first five groups are subdivided to meet the varying phases of the causes of disputes under each of the main headings.

(ii) *Causes of Disputes, Australia, 1913 and 1932 to 1938.*—The following table gives particulars of industrial disputes according to causes for the years specified.

Causes of Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Causes of Disputes.	1913.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
NUMBER.								
1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	42	5	1	10	9	16	28	10
(b) Against decrease ..	4	11	4	3	5	1	1	2
(c) Other wage questions	31	26	14	31	44	48	77	67
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	3	2	..	..	..	1	2	2
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	7	..	7	6	2	4	4	1
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	8	2	1	4	4	4	5	5
(b) Other union questions	5	3	3	8	12	16	24	43
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	44	50	55	52	53	81	80	106
5. Working conditions ..	51	11	9	25	40	43	72	73
6. Sympathy ..	5	2	..	3	1	5	11	4
7. Other causes ..	8	15	16	13	13	16	38	63
Total ..	208	127	90	155	183	235	342	376

WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.

1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	8,633	1,295	29	7,210	2,161	2,014	7,678	967
(b) Against decrease ..	563	7,327	2,178	2,817	339	40	15	914
(c) Other wage questions	7,160	5,417	4,336	8,335	11,804	12,930	21,588	21,399
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	460	198	..	..	..	20	429	4,050
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	1,819	..	2,620	309	1,601	488	1,474	36
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	5,370	17	89	383	581	1,612	3,542	1,659
(b) Other union questions	1,418	501	705	2,184	2,532	4,011	5,889	13,241
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	11,370	12,556	11,803	15,638	11,497	22,978	20,401	30,020
5. Working conditions ..	10,785	2,804	4,503	6,062	11,298	10,985	17,854	40,206
6. Sympathy ..	947	316	..	1,045	22	1,062	3,235	1,260
7. Other causes ..	1,758	2,486	3,850	6,875	5,487	4,447	14,068	30,202
Total ..	50,283	32,917	30,113	50,858	47,322	60,587	96,173	143,954

\* The heading "Other causes" has been adopted to meet various sets of circumstances which mainly arise in connexion with stoppages which are not concerted movements, and include among others the following:—(a) During the course of a meeting of miners, the wheelers return their horses to the stables and leave the colliery; (b) disputes (not necessarily connected with industrial matters which the employer can control) arise between wheelers and clippers, or any two sets of workers, and sufficient workmen are not available to work the mine to its full capacity.

## Causes of Industrial Disputes : Australia—continued.

Causes of Disputes.	1913.	1912.	1913.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
WORKING DAYS LOST.								
1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	100,069	5,900	87	108,277	72,567	33,439	144,372	32,390
(b) Against decrease ..	9,438	123,571	17,431	35,459	1,621	120	30	7,340
(c) Other wage questions	78,183	17,631	18,736	40,219	73,020	32,068	107,904	116,468
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	2,774	2,894	..	..	..	340	1,897	34,300
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	15,111	..	8,895	1,748	48,878	9,577	4,442	900
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	91,002	59	89	3,263	2,615	7,509	20,750	2,906
(b) Other union questions	32,388	6,261	1,421	10,774	11,696	9,616	9,569	80,280
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	191,723	36,054	31,799	110,166	144,453	266,310	138,428	104,454
5. Working conditions ..	73,562	14,902	22,865	26,223	64,612	119,475	85,746	744,147
6. Sympathy ..	24,066	1,096	..	11,174	44	10,209	11,230	4,440
7. Other causes ..	5,212	3,860	10,633	23,083	75,618	8,585	32,743	210,369
Total ..	623,528	212,318	111,956	370,386	495,124	497,248	557,111	1337994

The main causes of industrial disputes are "wage" questions, "working conditions," and "employment of particular classes or persons."

The number of disputes concerning "wages" in 1938 was 79, representing 21 per cent. of the total. The heading "Employment of particular classes or persons" includes stoppages of work for the purpose of protesting against the dismissal of fellow workpeople who were considered to have been unfairly treated or victimized. This class of dispute occurs frequently in the coal-mining industry. Disputes over "Employment" questions in 1938 numbered 106, or 28 per cent. of the total, and over "Working Conditions" 73, or 19 per cent. Disputes classified under these three headings numbered 258, or 69 per cent. of the total dislocations during the year.

**7. Results of Industrial Disputes—(i) General.**—The terms or conditions under which a resumption of work is agreed upon are taken as the basis of the result of the dispute and are comprised in one or other of the following four classes, viz. :—

(a) In favour of workpeople ; (b) In favour of employer ; (c) Compromise ; (d) Indefinite.

Disputes are considered to result :—(a) In favour of workpeople, when the employees succeed in enforcing compliance with all their demands, or are substantially successful in attaining their principal object, or in resisting a demand made by their employers ; (b) In favour of employer, when the demands of the employees are not conceded, or when the employer or employers are substantially successful in enforcing a demand ; (c) Compromise, when the employees are successful in enforcing compliance with a part of their demands or in resisting substantially full compliance with the demands of their employer or employers ; (d) Indefinite, when, for example, employees cease work owing to some misconception regarding the terms of an award, determination, or agreement, and work is resumed as usual on the matters in dispute being explained ; or in cases where a dispute arises in connexion with certain work which is, however, abandoned, even though the employees return to the same establishment to be employed on other work. The results of "Sympathetic" disputes, in which a body of workers cease work with the object of assisting another body of workers in obtaining compliance with some demand, are generally "Indefinite" except when the stoppage is entered upon partially to enforce a demand in which these workers might ultimately benefit.

(ii) *Results in each State, 1938.*—The following table shows the industrial disputes in 1938, classified according to results.

**Industrial Disputes : Results, 1938.(a)**

State or Territory.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
New South Wales	81	221	13	24	19,761	72,836	3,481	26,797	56,184	138,511	23,101	780,752
Victoria ..	6	4	5	4	4,331	1,938	2,556	1,465	26,384	10,598	22,104	45,250
Queensland ..	3	1	..	1	125	32	..	2,500	2,507	32	..	85,000
South Australia	1	..	..	1	31	..	..	94	155	..	..	94
Western Australia	2	3	..	2	600	294	..	2,750	4,200	818	..	38,750
Tasmania ..	1	..	..	1	105	..	..	2,095	945	..	..	72,175
N. Territory ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	500	..	..	..	500
A. C. Territory ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<b>Total, Aust. (a)</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>24,953</b>	<b>75,100</b>	<b>6,037</b>	<b>36,201</b>	<b>90,375</b>	<b>149,959</b>	<b>45,205</b>	<b>1,022,521</b>

(a) The following particulars of a dispute which was incomplete at 31st December, 1938, should be added to the above figures to effect a balance with those published in the preceding tables :—

State.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople.	Working Days Lost.
New South Wales .. ..	1	1	1,663	29,934

(iii) *Australia, 1938.*—The following table shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the total number of working days lost in disputes in Australia for the year 1938, classified according to cause and result of dispute.

**Industrial Disputes : Causes and Results, Australia, 1938.**

Classified according to Causes and Results.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
<b>Wages—</b>												
(a) For Increase	3	4	2	1	410	244	163	150	1,430	27,228	1,482	2,250
(b) Against decrease ..	1	..	1	..	200	..	714	..	200	..	7,140	..
(c) Other Wage questions ..	21	29	6	11	7,355	8,258	1,455	4,331	62,243	12,794	3,724	37,707
<b>Hours of Labour—</b>												
(a) For reduction	..	..	1	1	..	..	1,550	2,500	..	..	9,300	25,000
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	36	..	..	..	900
<b>Trade Unionism—</b>												
(a) Against employment of non-unionists	1	4	..	..	31	1,628	..	..	558	2,348	..	..
(b) Other union questions ..	2	38	..	3	548	10,619	..	2,074	3,796	17,457	..	59,027
<b>Employment of particular Classes or Persons ..</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9,261</b>	<b>16,810</b>	<b>2,108</b>	<b>1,841</b>	<b>32,750</b>	<b>35,761</b>	<b>19,047</b>	<b>16,896</b>
<b>Working conditions ..</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6,271</b>	<b>12,515</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>21,420</b>	<b>15,230</b>	<b>20,477</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>708,440</b>
<b>Sympathy ..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>4,440</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>
<b>Other Causes ..</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2,540</b>	<b>23,766</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>3,849</b>	<b>4,102</b>	<b>29,454</b>	<b>4,512</b>	<b>172,301</b>
<b>Total (a) ..</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>26,616</b>	<b>75,100</b>	<b>6,037</b>	<b>36,201</b>	<b>120,309</b>	<b>149,959</b>	<b>45,205</b>	<b>1,022,521</b>

(a) See note to table above.

(iv) *Australia, 1934 to 1938.*—The table hereunder shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the number of working days lost in disputes in Australia during the five years 1934 to 1938, classified according to results :—

Industrial Disputes : Results, Australia.

Year.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
1934 ..	29	102	14	9	7,025	31,220	9,620	2,729	40,048	179,126	126,081	19,059
1935 ..	44	105	17	15	9,312	30,338	4,359	3,179	67,933	346,666	62,007	10,194
1936 ..	44	165	7	19	13,997	40,279	908	5,403	248,363	179,748	7,027	62,110
1937 ..	86	206	7	41	23,939	58,665	713	12,273	192,181	285,755	3,744	37,395
1938 (a) ..	94	229	18	34	24,953	75,100	6,037	36,201	90,375	149,959	45,205	1,022,521

(a) See note on page 95.

Disputes resulting in favour of workpeople exceeded those resulting in favour of employers in earlier years, but of late years the position has been reversed. The percentage in favour of employers in 1938 was 61. Many of the disputes in the coal-mining industry are of short duration, and the records show that the workpeople resumed work on antecedent conditions without apparently gaining any concessions. These disputes have been classified as terminating in favour of the employer. A number of disputes in each year resulted in a compromise, while in certain cases the heading "Indefinite" had to be adopted.

**8. Methods of Settlement.**—(i) *General.*—Methods of settlement have been classified under the following six headings :—

- (i) By negotiation.
- (ii) Under State Industrial Act.
- (iii) Under Commonwealth Arbitration Act.
- (iv) By filling places of workpeople on strike or locked out.
- (v) By closing down establishments permanently.
- (vi) By other methods.

Each of the first five methods indicates some definite action. The sixth, "Other Methods," is more or less indefinite, and is connected with "Other Causes" and relates mainly to resumptions of work at collieries at the next shift, the cause of the stoppages not being in all cases made known officially to the management.

(ii) *Australia, 1913 and 1932 to 1938*—Information for Australia for the years specified is given hereunder:—

**Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes: Australia.**

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.(a)
NUMBER OF DISPUTES.								
<b>Negotiation—</b>								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives . . .	119	87	64	84	130	174	265	245
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act . . .	17	4	1	2	3	16	9	17
<b>Under State Industrial Act—</b>								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference . . .	19	5	3	10	7	3	6	3
By reference to Board or Court . . .	22	2	3	8	6	6	4	9
<b>Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—</b>								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference . . .	4	3	2	5	5	2	2	9
<b>By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out . . .</b>	13	7	2	2	8	4	5	..
<b>By Closing down Establishment permanently . . .</b>	1	1	3	2	4	..	1	..
<b>By other methods . . .</b>	13	18	11	40	18	30	48	92
<b>Total . . .</b>	208	127	89	153	181	235	340	(a) 375

(a) See note on page 95.

**WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.**

<b>Negotiation—</b>								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives . . .	23,357	22,595	19,703	25,469	30,360	44,251	72,430	70,481
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act . . .	3,172	1,800	1,100	891	285	5,061	2,764	4,845
<b>Under State Industrial Act—</b>								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference . . .	6,505	1,640	1,290	4,559	3,867	291	1,804	1,844
By reference to Board or Court . . .	12,774	416	1,390	1,666	1,445	1,746	428	5,511
<b>Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—</b>								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference . . .	659	1,839	1,096	4,335	2,017	339	480	21,289
<b>By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out . . .</b>	658	460	986	138	3,670	141	825	..
<b>By Closing down Establishment permanently . . .</b>	170	11	1,271	444	108	..	86	..
<b>By other methods . . .</b>	2,988	4,156	3,213	13,092	5,436	8,758	16,773	38,313
<b>Total . . .</b>	50,283	32,917	30,049	50,594	47,188	60,587	95,590	(d) 142,291

(a) See note on page 95.

## Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes—Australia—continued.

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.(a)
WORKING DAYS LOST.								
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	94,400	87,650	54,774	182,260	192,903	234,373	396,410	203,175
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	26,335	79,872	6,600	20,019	3,211	202,949	18,517	64,220
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	187,871	7,423	3,510	58,801	117,762	3,047	48,769	11,796
By reference to Board or Court ..	221,769	3,408	6,330	10,474	16,961	24,503	7,354	326,881
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	2,105	18,596	15,437	46,814	24,601	7,152	4,120	629,075
By Filling Places of Work—								
People on Strike or Locked out ..	14,139	6,874	10,543	138	74,873	2,581	12,571	..
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	20,400	44	8,627	4,486	7,546	..	172	..
By other methods ..	56,509	8,451	6,071	41,322	48,943	22,643	31,162	72,913
Total ..	623,528	212,318	111,892	364,314	486,800	497,248	519,075	1,308,060 (a)

(a) See note on page 95.

In each of the years included above, direct negotiation between employers and employees settled the majority of the disputes. In the year 1913, 57 per cent. of the total number of dislocations were settled in this manner, and the percentages in subsequent years varied between 43 in 1925 and 78 in 1937. In 1938 the percentages was 65. In connexion with the comparatively large number of disputes classified as settled "By other methods," stoppages of work frequently occur, principally at the collieries, without any cause being brought officially under the notice of the employers or their representatives. Such stoppages usually last for one day, and work is resumed on the following morning without negotiation.

## § 2. Fluctuations in Employment.

1. General.—The collection by this Bureau of information relating to unemployment was initiated in 1912, when special inquiries were forwarded to officials of trade unions throughout Australia for particulars for that year, and for information relating to previous years, as far back as 1891.

From 1913, information concerning the extent of unemployment of trade unionists has been collected at quarterly periods, and the results of the investigations have been published in the *Official Year Book, Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*, and the *Labour Reports*. The Bureau is greatly indebted to the responsible officials of the various unions for the kindly readiness with which they supplied available data.

The particulars in the following tables are based on information furnished by the secretaries of trade unions, and the number of members of unions regularly reporting has now reached over 460,000. Unemployment returns are not collected from unions whose members are in permanent employment, such as railway and tramway employees, and public servants, or from unions whose members are casually employed (wharf labourers, shearers,

etc.). Very few unions pay unemployment benefit, but the majority of the larger organizations have permanent secretaries and organizers who are in close touch with the members and with the state of trade in their particular industries. In many cases unemployment registers are kept, and employers apply to the union officials when labour is required. Provision is also made in the rules for members out of work to pay reduced subscriptions. The value of the percentages of unemployment derived from Trade Union returns is in the indication they give of the relative intensity of unemployment from time to time.

Seasonal fluctuations in unemployment have been recorded by collecting returns quarterly since the 1st January, 1913, the yearly figures quoted representing the average of the four quarters.

**2. Unemployment.**—(i) *States, 1938.*—In addition to the qualifications referred to above, allowance must be made for the circumstance that the industries included in the returns from trade unions are not quite identical in the various States. The figures in the following tables do not include persons out of work through strikes and lock-outs:—

**Unemployment : 1938.**

State.	Unions Reporting.		Unemployed.	
	Number.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.
New South Wales .. .. .	112	197,192	19,477	9.9
Victoria .. .. .	79	124,184	10,718	8.6
Queensland .. .. .	45	64,793	4,181	6.4
South Australia .. .. .	56	37,588	3,126	8.3
Western Australia .. .. .	64	32,678	1,851	5.7
Tasmania .. .. .	34	9,890	785	7.9
Australia .. .. .	390	466,325	40,138	8.7

(ii) *Australia, 1891 to 1939 (June Quarter).*—The following table gives particulars for Australia for the years 1891 to 1939 (June Quarter) in respect of:—

- (a) The number of unions for which returns as to unemployment are available, (b) The number of members of such unions, (c) The number of members unemployed, and (d) The percentage of members unemployed on total number of members.

**Unemployment : Australia.**

PARTICULARS.	Unions.	Number of Members.	UNEMPLOYED.	
			Number.	Percentage.
1891 end of year .. .. .	25	6,445	599	9.3
1896 " " .. .. .	25	4,227	457	10.8
1901 " " .. .. .	39	8,710	574	6.6
1907 " " .. .. .	51	13,179	757	5.7
1908 " " .. .. .	68	18,685	1,117	6.0
1909 " " .. .. .	84	21,122	1,223	5.8
1910 " " .. .. .	109	32,995	1,857	5.6



## Unemployment : Australia—continued.

PARTICULARS.	Unions.	Number of Members.	UNEMPLOYED.	
			Number.	Percentage.
1911 end of year ..	160	67,961	3,171	4.7
1912 " " ..	464	224,023	12,441	5.6
1913 (average for year) ..	462	246,068	16,054	6.5
1914 " " ..	459	268,938	22,344	8.3
1915 " " ..	470	276,215	25,663	9.3
1916 " " ..	473	290,075	16,783	5.8
1917 " " ..	450	286,811	20,334	7.1
1918 " " ..	478	299,793	17,536	5.8
1919 " " ..	464	310,145	20,507	6.6
1920 " " ..	447	341,967	22,105	6.5
1921 " " ..	449	361,744	40,549	11.2
1922 " " ..	445	380,998	35,238	9.3
1923 " " ..	436	376,557	26,672	7.1
1924 " " ..	413	397,613	35,507	8.9
1925 " " ..	380	391,380	34,620	8.8
1926 " " ..	374	415,397	29,326	7.1
1927 " " ..	375	445,985	31,032	7.0
1928 " " ..	375	423,422	45,669	10.8
1929 " " ..	382	424,093	47,359	11.1
1930 " " ..	395	438,874	84,767	19.3
1931 " " ..	397	430,004	117,866	27.4
1932 " " ..	395	415,434	120,454	29.0
1933 " " ..	394	415,305	104,035	25.1
1934 " " ..	394	424,035	86,865	20.5
1935 " " ..	396	435,938	71,823	16.5
1936 " " ..	392	441,311	53,992	12.2
1937 " " ..	387	449,588	41,823	9.3
1938 " " ..	390	466,325	40,138	8.7
1936 Sept. " ..	390	436,139	52,482	12.0
Dec. " ..	390	437,246	46,863	10.7
1937 March " ..	388	443,446	44,004	9.9
June " ..	387	447,714	43,584	9.7
Sept. " ..	387	451,584	42,145	9.3
Dec. " ..	387	455,608	37,558	8.2
1938 March " ..	386	462,918	37,111	8.0
June " ..	386	464,208	39,824	8.6
Sept. " ..	394	468,634	43,092	9.2
Dec. " ..	395	471,581	42,077	8.9
1939 March " ..	395	475,378	46,611	9.8
June " ..	398	478,250	46,249	9.7

3. Unemployment by Industries.—(i) *Australia*, 1938.—The next table shows the percentages unemployed in industrial groups. Industries in which employment is stable—such as railways, or occupations in which employment is subject to exceptional fluctuations—such as wharf labour, agricultural, pastoral, etc., are insufficiently represented in the returns, owing to the impossibility of securing the necessary information from the

trade unions. Particulars are not, therefore, shown separately for these groups, such returns as are available being included in the last group, "Other and Miscellaneous."

### Unemployment in Industrial Groups : Australia, 1938.

Industrial Group.	Number Reporting.		Unemployed.	
	Unions.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.
Manufacturing—				
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	16	18,452	1,808	9.9
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	62	84,097	3,873	4.6
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. (a)	54	39,784	6,738	17.0
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	21	42,221	5,145	12.4
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	12	21,241	792	3.7
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	63	48,944	4,939	10.1
VII. Building ..	47	52,413	4,077	7.9
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	20	26,312	3,292	12.5
X. Land Transport other than Railway and Tramway Services	12	18,743	1,751	9.2
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous ..	83	114,118	7,723	6.7
All Groups .. ..	390	466,325	40,138	8.7

(a) See note (a) on page 102.

(ii) *Australia, 1912, and Quarterly, 1937 to 1939.*—The following table gives for various industrial groups the percentages of members of trade unions returned as unemployed from the September quarter of 1937 to the June quarter of 1939. The percentage of unemployed at the end of 1912 is also inserted for purposes of comparison.

### Unemployment : Percentages by Industries, Australia.

Industrial Group.	1912, End of Year.	1937.		1938.				1939.	
		Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.	March Qtr.	June Qtr.	Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.	March Qtr.	June Qtr.
Manufacturing—									
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	3.7	5.5	4.3	4.4	8.1	13.7	13.4	15.7	16.4
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	7.4	5.4	5.5	3.5	3.6	5.5	5.8	7.5	7.9
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. (a)	7.3	19.2	15.0	14.0	18.8	18.8	15.5	16.0	18.3
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	6.3	12.5	10.3	13.2	12.2	10.6	13.3	14.0	12.6
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	2.8	4.1	3.4	3.5	4.3	3.8	3.4	3.8	4.1
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	6.0	8.6	8.4	8.7	8.8	11.4	11.4	11.8	11.1
VII. Building ..	5.5	9.1	7.4	8.3	8.5	7.2	7.6	8.8	8.0
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	5.6	13.2	13.6	13.4	13.0	12.8	10.7	11.9	11.5
X. Other Land Transport ..	1.1	12.6	11.6	9.5	9.7	9.6	7.9	7.7	7.5
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous ..	5.4	8.0	7.0	6.3	6.9	7.2	6.6	7.3	6.9
AUSTRALIA .. ..	5.6	9.3	8.2	8.0	8.6	9.2	8.9	9.8	9.7

(a) See note (a) on page 102.

4. *Unemployment, Quarterly.—States.*—The results of the quarterly investigations as to unemployment in the years 1913 to 1934 were published in previous issues of this Report and in the *Quarterly Summary of Statistics*.

The following table shows for each State the percentage of members of trade unions returned as unemployed for the years 1926 to 1938 and quarterly from 1935 onwards:—

Unemployment: Percentages.

Period.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania. (a)	Australia.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1926 Year. . . . .	7.4	6.4	8.4	5.2	7.1	13.9	7.1
1927 " " " " " " "	7.0	7.4	5.9	7.2	5.4	11.1	7.0
1928 " " " " " " "	11.3	10.9	7.0	15.0	8.2	10.6	10.8
1929 " " " " " " "	11.5	11.1	7.1	15.7	9.9	12.8	11.1
1930 " " " " " " "	21.7	18.3	10.7	23.3	19.2	17.7	19.3
1931 " " " " " " "	30.8	25.8	16.2	32.5	27.3	26.1	27.4
1932 " " " " " " "	32.5	26.5	18.8	34.0	29.5	25.9	29.0
1933 " " " " " " "	28.9	22.3	15.3	29.9	24.8	18.6	25.1
1934 " " " " " " "	24.7	17.4	11.7	25.6	17.8	17.4	20.5
1935 " " " " " " "	20.6	14.0	8.7	17.6	13.4	13.2	16.5
1936 " " " " " " "	15.4	10.7	7.8	10.8	8.1	9.8	12.2
1937 " " " " " " "	10.9	9.0	7.3	8.2	5.6	7.3	9.3
1938 " " " " " " "	9.9	8.6	6.4	8.3	5.7	7.9	8.7
1935 March Qtr. . . . .	23.6	15.0	9.8	20.7	15.4	16.0	18.6
June " " " " " " "	22.7	15.0	8.8	18.9	13.9	13.5	17.8
Sept. " " " " " " "	10.1	14.8	8.5	16.3	12.5	13.1	15.9
Dec. " " " " " " "	17.0	11.3	7.7	14.7	11.8	10.2	13.7
1936 March Qtr. . . . .	17.2	10.8	8.5	12.2	10.3	10.8	13.4
June " " " " " " "	16.2	10.6	8.5	11.0	9.2	9.4	12.8
Sept. " " " " " " "	14.8	11.7	7.2	10.0	7.4	9.8	12.0
Dec. " " " " " " "	13.3	9.7	7.2	9.9	5.6	9.1	10.7
1937 March Qtr. . . . .	11.8	9.5	7.7	9.5	5.4	7.8	9.9
June " " " " " " "	11.4	9.6	7.6	8.3	5.6	6.9	9.7
Sept. " " " " " " "	10.5	9.5	7.2	8.4	6.6	7.2	9.3
Dec. " " " " " " "	10.1	7.3	6.6	6.5	5.0	7.1	8.2
1938 March Qtr. . . . .	9.6	7.3	6.6	6.9	4.8	5.7	8.0
June " " " " " " "	9.8	8.5	7.2	7.5	5.3	7.2	8.6
Sept. " " " " " " "	10.0	9.7	6.3	10.0	6.1	8.5	9.2
Dec. " " " " " " "	10.1	9.0	5.7	8.8	6.5	10.2	8.9
1939 March " " " " " " "	11.0	10.8	6.1	9.3	7.3	7.6	9.8
June " " " " " " "	11.1	10.4	5.7	9.5	6.2	9.4	9.7

(a) Revised Series. These percentages, which for the years 1929 to 1938 (June Quarter) replace those published in Labour Report No. 28, are based on the returns of reporting unions after excluding certain females from Class III. (food, drink, &c.). The females excluded, although substantially all employed from January to March, are for the rest of the year not "unemployed" in the sense that they are seeking jobs unsuccessfully in their own industry. They are either employed in other occupations (e.g., paid domestic service) or are engaged in home duties.

**5. Causes of Unemployment.**—In earlier issues of the Labour Report tables were published showing the percentage of members of unions unemployed through—(a) lack of work; (b) sickness and accident; and (c) other causes. The returns from trade unions for past years show that while the percentage unemployed through lack of work has varied considerably according to the state of trade during the period, the percentages of members unemployed through sickness and accident, and through other causes, have remained uniform at 0.7 per cent. and 0.2 per cent., respectively.

**6. Seasonal Employment in Australia.**—An investigation concerning the extent of seasonal employment in Australia was made in 1928. The State Statisticians were invited to furnish brief reports regarding the industries and callings in their respective States subject to seasonal fluctuations, and from the reports received, supplemented by information from other sources, particulars were published in Labour Report, No. 19. The result of inquiries concerning the organization of public works in connexion with unemployment was also published in Labour Report, No. 19.

### § 3. Direct Measures of Employment.

**I. General.**—In order to supplement the trade union unemployment percentages, the Commonwealth and the State Statisticians have for the

last five years been making direct monthly collections of employment in factories and retail stores. In the case of factories, these figures give fairly reliable indexes of the course of employment fully a year before the results of the annual collections become available. In the case of retail stores, the figures yield indexes of employment where none existed before. These indexes are also published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* and quarterly in mimeographed statements.

**2. Index of Employment in Factories.**—This index is available monthly from July, 1933. "Factories" include all industrial establishments in which four or more hands are employed, or in which power other than hand is used. The index relates to employees on the pay roll on the pay day nearest to the 15th of the month, and includes managers, overseers, clerks and all workers except working proprietors and those engaged solely in the delivery and sale of goods. The index shows that about 24 per cent. of the employee population was employed in factories in June, 1939.

Up to June, 1938, the index is based on the results of annual factory censuses, and actual mid-monthly factory employment of all persons is published in the *Production Bulletin* issued by this Bureau. For the year 1938-39 the index is based on returns from selected representative factories, and is issued subject to subsequent revision. Index numbers for later months, estimated in the same way, may be obtained from the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* and quarterly press notices on employment issued by the Bureau. The number of these "sample" factories and their employees as a percentage of all factory employees in the year 1937-38 are shown at the foot of the table.

For the last three columns of the table the Australian index of employment has been divided by an index of employee population in order to compare the change in employment in factories with the change in the number of persons seeking employment generally. The indexes of employee population are based on the numbers of males and females between the ages of 16 and 64 inclusive. These are found by applying vital and migration statistics to the numbers of males and females at varying ages at the Census date. The total index is obtained by taking a mean of the individual indexes weighted by the numbers of males and females in the employee group (wage and salary earners, unemployed, apprentices, and helpers) at the Census of June, 1933. This gives males about three times the weight of females. Between 1928-29 and 1937-38 employee population as estimated in this way increased: males, 11.0 per cent.; females, 13.2 per cent.; total, 11.6 per cent. The increase of population of all ages over the same period was: males, 7.0 per cent.; females, 9.2 per cent.; total, 8.1 per cent. The difference is due to the fact that the average age of the Australian population is increasing.

The index of total factory employment divided by the index of employee population fluctuated between 100 and 105 from 1926-27 to 1928-29 (the base year). It fell to 71 in 1931-32, the peak year of the depression, and then rose steadily each year thereafter to 111 in 1937-38. It receded to 109 in 1938-39. Thus relative employment in factories was considerably higher in 1938-39 than it was in pre-depression years.

There have been changes in the distribution of factory employment. Thus female factory employment began to increase in 1931-32, a year sooner than male employment, and between 1928-29 and 1936-37 it increased by 4 per cent. more than male employment, after allowing for the growth of employee population. The figures for 1937-38 show that this difference was reduced to 2 per cent. during that period and the returns from the "sample" factories indicate that this margin was maintained in 1938-39.

3. **Index of Employment in Retail Stores.**—This index is not available even annually before July, 1933. It is based on employment in the number of establishments shown at the foot of the table. As there is no annual census of employment in retail stores, there is no means of knowing how accurately the movement of employment in these stores represents that in the whole field. Consequently this index is much less reliable than the index of employment in factories. The Australian index is an average of the State indexes weighted by the number of persons returned as engaged in "Commerce" at the June, 1933, Census. This census industry class "Commerce" comprises both wholesale and retail dealing, and it is not possible to obtain separate figures for the latter. The numbers returned at the census as in the employee group in this class were, for Australia: Males, 212,000; females, 87,000; total, 299,000. The respective percentages returned as totally unemployed in this group were: Males, 18.1 per cent.; females, 10.6 per cent.; total, 15.9 per cent. In addition there was a good deal of part-time work.

The 21 per cent. increase in retail employment between July, 1933, and June, 1939, after correcting for the growth of employee population, may be compared with the increase of 37 per cent. in the corresponding index of factory employment over the same period. However, unemployment in the census class "Manufacturing" was 22.1 per cent. compared with 15.9 per cent., quoted above, for "Commerce". In either case the increase in employment has been more than sufficient to absorb those returned as unemployed and working part-time at the census, as well as the proportion of the normal growth of employee population ordinarily seeking employment in these classes.

4. **General Employment Measures of New South Wales, Queensland, and Tasmania.**—The New South Wales Index is published by the Government Statistician of New South Wales, and fuller details may be found in the *New South Wales Year Book*. It refers to all wage and salary earners, and is based on the census record of employment at June, 1933, and receipts of wages tax, and records of government employment since that date.

The Queensland Index is published by the Queensland Bureau of Industry and fuller details may be found in the *Queensland Year Book*. It refers to adult male wage and salary earners and is based on the amount of contributions to the Queensland Unemployment Insurance Scheme, wages paid from the Unemployment Relief Fund, and other records. Normal seasonal variation does not appear in the index.

The Tasmanian measure of employment is published by this Bureau and is compiled from the wages tax returns of private employers in respect of their employees, whether subject to or not subject to tax, and from returns of Commonwealth, State and Local Government employment. •It gives the best measure available of total employment in Tasmania.

The New South Wales and Tasmanian measures give an almost complete record of employment and are the most accurate available in Australia. In the New South Wales and Queensland indexes, however, allowance for relief workers presents a difficult problem. It is impossible to separate entirely "normal" loan works and relief works. Thus for the purposes of these indexes "relief workers" mean "part-time relief workers" in the case of New South Wales, and "intermittent relief workers" in the case of Queensland.

## INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT IN RETAIL STORES.

(Base : July, 1933 = 100)

Month.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Aust.	Australian Index divided by Index of Employee Population.
1933 July ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1933-34 ..	103	107	101	102	99	106	104	103
1934-35 ..	111	118	106	108	105	108	112	110
1935 July ..	116	120	107	107	111	109	115	112
August ..	113	120	108	109	105	108	113	111
September ..	113	123	104	113	106	107	114	112
October ..	115	128	107	112	106	107	117	114
November ..	119	131	106	115	109	110	120	117
December ..	133	145	106	128	123	120	133	130
1936 January ..	116	132	109	116	114	115	120	116
February ..	119	133	107	114	110	111	120	117
March ..	117	132	109	113	110	111	119	116
April ..	118	129	108	114	109	113	119	115
May ..	119	132	110	114	111	112	121	117
June ..	120	132	110	113	109	113	121	117
Average 1935-36	118	130	109	114	110	112	119	116
1936 July ..	122	130	109	116	113	107	121	117
August ..	120	128	109	115	111	113	120	116
September ..	120	128	109	118	113	115	120	116
October ..	121	133	110	112	116	116	122	118
November ..	123	139	111	115	116	119	125	121
December ..	137	155	121	125	127	132	138	133
1937 January ..	123	138	112	112	116	120	125	120
February ..	125	137	111	111	114	122	125	120
March ..	123	135	111	111	114	118	123	118
April ..	124	136	109	113	114	120	124	119
May ..	126	138	111	114	113	121	126	120
June ..	126	141	110	114	113	121	126	121
Average 1936-37	124	137	111	115	115	119	125	120
1937 July ..	129	137	110	115	115	124	127	121
August ..	126	133	110	112	113	121	124	118
September ..	126	135	110	117	113	123	125	119
October ..	127	140	110	113	114	123	127	121
November ..	129	143	110	115	116	125	129	123
December ..	144	161	123	129	126	138	144	137
1938 January ..	128	144	111	115	122	126	129	123
February ..	131	139	111	112	116	124	128	122
March ..	128	140	110	112	115	123	127	121
April ..	129	140	112	113	117	125	128	121
May ..	129	141	112	114	115	126	128	122
June ..	131	142	113	114	114	126	129	122
Average 1937-38	130	141	112	115	116	118	128	122
1938 July ..	134	139	111	114	120	130	129	123
August ..	129	135	111	112	113	127	126	119
September ..	128	137	111	118	114	127	127	120
October ..	129	142	110	113	115	128	128	121
November ..	132	146	115	116	116	130	131	124
December ..	148	165	127	124	131	146	147	139
1939 January ..	129	142	113	111	120	137	129	121
February ..	134	141	113	112	113	131	130	122
March ..	129	139	113	111	113	132	127	120
April ..	129	139	112	111	113	133	127	120
May ..	131	141	114	111	113	134	129	121
June(a) ..	130	142	118	113	113	138	130	121
Average 1938-39	132	142	114	114	116	133	130	123
Number of establishments now furnishing returns ..	599	102	120	35	69	14	939	..

(a) Indexes for later months may be obtained from the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* and quarterly press notices on employment, issued by this Bureau.

## INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT IN FACTORIES.

(Base : Average for Year 1928-29 = 100)

Period.	New South Wales.			Victoria.			Queensland.			South Australia.			Western Australia.			Tasmania.			Australia.			Australian Index divided by Index of Employee Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of employees in the base year 1928-29 ('000) (a) .. ..	129.5	44.6	174.1	98.1	51.2	149.3	35.6	7.8	43.4	29.0	6.4	35.4	16.0	3.8	19.8	7.7	2.3	10.0	315.9	116.1	432.0	..	..	..
1926-27 .. ..	100	98	99	102	99	101	101	89	99	113	109	112	95	91	94	105	88	101	101	98	100	106	102	105
1927-28 .. ..	99	97	98	100	98	100	101	92	99	106	106	106	98	97	98	107	104	106	100	98	100	102	100	102
1928-29 .. ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1929-30 .. ..	90	91	90	96	98	97	95	94	94	87	89	87	94	98	94	105	99	104	92	95	93	91	93	92
1930-31 .. ..	68	75	70	78	83	80	83	85	84	63	71	64	68	76	60	85	83	84	73	79	75	71	76	72
1931-32 .. ..	66	79	69	77	90	81	78	84	70	61	76	64	61	75	63	84	87	85	70	84	74	68	80	71
1932-33 .. ..	73	86	76	87	101	92	80	92	82	68	84	71	68	81	70	86	90	87	78	93	82	74	87	77
1933-34 .. ..	82	94	85	96	107	100	86	99	88	77	80	80	75	85	77	93	89	92	86	99	90	81	92	84
1934-35 .. ..	93	107	97	106	113	108	92	105	94	89	97	91	83	92	85	101	97	100	96	108	100	89	99	92
1935-36 .. ..	104	116	107	117	119	117	97	110	99	104	110	105	99	106	100	112	103	110	107	116	109	98	105	100
1936-37 .. ..	112	125	115	123	121	123	103	116	106	110	113	111	107	113	108	122	103	118	114	121	116	104	108	105
1937-38 .. ..	121	134	124	131	126	130	112	123	114	120	121	121	110	116	111	130	108	125	123	128	124	111	113	111
1938-39 .. ..	(c)	(c)	125	127	121	125	115	125	117	115	120	116	108	117	110	132	113	128	122	126	123	108	110	109
1935 July .. ..	99	108	101	109	111	110	97	104	98	99	102	100	93	100	94	104	98	103	102	108	104	94	98	95
August .. ..	100	111	103	110	115	112	99	110	101	97	105	99	93	101	95	105	94	102	103	112	105	95	101	97
September ..	101	114	104	113	118	115	98	113	101	97	109	102	95	104	97	106	93	103	104	115	107	96	104	98
October .. ..	103	117	106	116	120	117	101	114	104	103	109	104	98	105	99	109	96	106	106	117	109	98	106	100
November ..	105	119	108	118	121	119	102	115	104	102	108	103	100	108	101	113	98	109	108	118	111	100	107	102
December ..	105	119	109	118	120	119	98	112	101	104	110	105	101	108	102	116	104	113	108	118	111	100	106	102
1936 January ..	104	111	105	116	115	115	89	104	92	103	106	104	100	105	101	117	104	114	106	112	107	97	101	98
February ..	d105	118	d107	119	122	120	92	108	95	107	116	109	102	105	102	119	122	120	108	119	111	99	107	101
March .. ..	d105	122	d110	122	125	123	95	112	98	110	117	111	103	107	104	119	116	118	110	122	113	101	110	103
April .. ..	106	120	109	120	120	120	95	109	97	110	114	111	103	108	104	115	105	113	110	118	112	100	106	102
May .. ..	108	120	111	120	120	120	98	110	100	109	112	109	103	108	104	114	105	112	110	119	113	101	106	103
June .. ..	108	119	110	118	117	118	109	105	101	105	107	105	102	107	103	113	103	111	110	116	111	100	104	101
July .. ..	107	119	110	117	116	117	104	112	106	104	106	105	104	111	106	112	100	109	109	116	111	100	104	101
August .. ..	108	122	111	118	119	118	106	117	108	103	109	104	104	111	106	111	96	108	110	119	112	101	106	102
September ..	109	124	112	120	121	120	110	120	112	104	111	105	104	113	106	114	99	110	112	121	114	102	109	104
October .. ..	110	126	114	123	123	123	109	122	111	103	111	105	106	115	108	118	99	114	113	123	116	103	110	105
November ..	112	127	116	124	123	124	107	119	109	105	112	106	108	115	109	121	99	116	114	123	117	104	110	106
December ..	112	125	116	124	120	123	103	117	105	113	111	110	110	116	111	124	103	119	115	121	116	104	108	105



1937	January	111	118	113	121	113	118	91	109	94	109	108	109	109	112	110	125	99	119	112	114	113	102	102
	February	114	126	117	125	125	125	96	115	99	114	118	115	109	113	110	132	112	128	115	124	118	105	110
	March	115	130	119	127	126	127	99	118	102	115	119	116	110	112	110	133	117	129	117	126	119	106	112
	April	114	129	118	129	126	128	101	114	104	119	120	120	109	111	109	130	106	125	118	125	120	107	111
	May	115	128	119	127	122	125	105	116	107	120	117	119	108	111	109	127	105	122	118	123	119	107	109
	June	117	128	120	126	120	124	109	115	110	119	116	118	107	110	108	123	104	119	119	122	120	107	108
	July	117	128	120	126	121	124	113	117	114	118	113	117	108	111	108	122	103	118	120	125	121	108	111
	August	118	131	121	126	123	125	116	122	117	118	115	117	108	111	108	123	97	117	121	127	122	109	112
	September	119	133	122	128	126	127	117	124	118	117	118	118	108	114	109	123	97	117	121	127	122	109	112
	October	120	134	124	131	127	130	117	126	119	117	119	120	110	110	112	131	101	124	124	130	125	112	115
	November	122	135	125	132	128	131	117	127	118	120	120	120	110	110	113	135	105	128	124	130	126	112	114
	December	122	137	126	133	127	131	112	125	114	123	120	122	112	110	115	111	135	114	130	122	122	122	109
1938	January	121	128	123	130	119	126	100	115	103	122	120	121	110	115	111	135	114	130	122	122	122	122	109
	February	122	135	125	134	130	133	107	124	110	124	126	124	111	118	112	137	116	132	124	131	126	111	115
	March	123	138	127	136	133	135	111	125	113	124	130	125	113	117	114	137	120	133	126	133	128	113	117
	April	122	137	126	135	130	134	111	122	113	125	129	125	112	118	113	134	111	129	125	132	127	112	116
	May	123	137	127	134	127	132	113	123	115	121	124	122	111	117	112	133	112	128	125	130	126	112	114
	June	124	136	127	132	125	130	115	124	117	117	117	117	110	116	111	130	111	125	124	128	125	111	113
	July(b)	(c)	(c)	126	128	121	125	115	118	115	112	109	111	107	111	107	128	112	124	122	124	122	109	109
	August	(c)	(c)	126	126	125	126	120	121	120	109	116	110	106	114	108	129	113	125	121	128	123	109	112
	September	(c)	(c)	126	127	125	126	122	124	122	113	120	114	106	114	107	127	107	122	122	128	124	109	112
	October	(c)	(c)	126	128	123	126	119	130	121	114	122	115	108	118	110	130	105	124	123	128	124	110	112
	November	(c)	(c)	126	129	122	127	118	128	120	116	122	117	110	119	112	131	101	124	123	127	124	110	111
	December	(c)	(c)	126	128	117	124	119	127	121	115	120	116	112	120	113	131	104	125	124	124	124	110	108
1939	January	(c)	(c)	121	125	106	119	107	122	109	119	123	120	106	112	107	137	118	133	120	115	118	107	100
	February	(c)	(c)	123	126	119	124	109	127	112	121	123	121	107	118	109	140	131	138	121	125	122	108	109
	March	(c)	(c)	125	127	124	126	111	130	114	121	128	122	110	119	112	138	120	134	121	129	123	108	112
	April	(c)	(c)	124	127	128	127	111	125	114	118	120	118	108	118	110	137	126	134	120	131	123	107	114
	May	(c)	(c)	123	129	120	126	116	127	118	115	118	116	108	120	110	131	114	129	122	125	123	108	109
	June(e)	(c)	(c)	123	125	119	123	115	125	117	111	122	113	107	119	109	129	108	124	120	125	121	106	108
Number of Factories in Sample		1,901				100			150			147			92		49						2,439	
Percentage of employees(f) in sample in 1937-38		86				21			46			62			32		56						54	

(a) Exclusive of working proprietors and those engaged solely on the delivery and sale of goods.

(b) For 1938-39 indexes are based on sample returns, and will be revised. The indexes of total employment are based on total employment in sample factories. The male and female indexes are based on separate returns for males and females in five States (excluding New South Wales) adjusted so that the total of males and females agrees with the estimate of total employment.

(c) Not available.

(d) Industrial dispute involving about 3,000 men.

(e) Indexes for later months may be obtained from *The Monthly Review of Business Statistics* and quarterly press notices on employment issued by this Bureau.

(f) The samples vary in quality, so these percentages are intended to give only a very rough idea of the relative accuracy of the estimates. Tasmania and South Australia have proved less and Victoria more accurate than the relative size of the samples would suggest.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

## EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT OF ALL AVAILABLE WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS.

Period.	Percentage of all who are dependent on and available for employment.			
	Including as employed the full-time equivalent of part-time relief workers.		Including all part-time relief workers as unemployed.	
	Employed.	Unemployed.	Employed.	Unemployed.
	%	%	%	%
1933 June (Census) .. ..	74.4	25.6	73.5	26.5
1933-34 .. .. .	77.9	22.1	75.9	24.1
1934-35 .. .. .	83.8	16.2	81.2	18.8
1935-36 .. .. .	88.6	11.4	86.1	13.9
1936-37 .. .. .	91.5	8.5	90.0	10.0
1937-38 .. .. .	95.7	4.3	94.5	5.5
1938-39 .. .. .	94.9	5.1	93.8	6.2
1938 June .. .. .	96.1	3.9	95.1	4.9
1939 January .. .. .	93.0	7.0	91.9	8.1
February .. .. .	94.4	5.6	93.3	6.7
March .. .. .	94.2	5.8	93.2	6.8
April .. .. .	94.6	5.4	93.5	6.5
May .. .. .	94.3	5.7	93.3	6.7
June .. .. .	93.7	6.3	92.6	7.4

The indexes were revised in November, 1937. In estimating the increase in the number of persons dependent on employment allowance is now made for (a) increase in the proportion of females who are wage-earners, and (b) youths who were without occupation but were not recorded in the wage-earning group at the Census of 1933. Adjustment for seasonal variations in employment is not made.

At the Census of 30th June, 1933, 15,142 persons dependent on employment returned themselves as unemployed by reason of illness, accident, &c., or "voluntarily". This number, representing 1.8 per cent. of all persons dependent on employment, is excluded from the above indexes, which relate to percentages of available wage-earners employed and unemployed. The approximate number of persons in private employment was 478,000 in June, 1933; 519,000 in June, 1934; 567,000 in June, 1935; 614,000 in June, 1936; 653,000 in June, 1937; 689,000 in June, 1938; and 679,000 in June, 1939.

## QUEENSLAND.

## EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG MEN WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS.

Period.	Including as employed the full-time equivalent of "intermittent relief workers."		Including "intermittent relief workers" as unemployed.	
	Employed.	Unemployed.	Employed.	Unemployed.
	%	%	%	%
1929 .. .. .	89.9	10.1	89.9	10.1
1930 .. .. .	86.4	13.6	85.6	14.4
1931 .. .. .	77.2	22.8	74.3	25.7
1932 .. .. .	77.8	22.2	72.9	27.1
1933 .. .. .	79.8	20.2	73.9	26.1
1934 .. .. .	84.9	15.1	80.1	19.9
1935 .. .. .	89.0	11.0	84.4	15.6
1936 .. .. .	92.3	7.7	87.4	12.6
1937 .. .. .	94.0	6.0	90.3	9.7
1938 .. .. .	95.4	4.6	92.6	7.4
Three months ended—				
1938 March .. ..	95.4	4.6	91.7	8.3
June .. .. .	95.4	4.6	91.8	8.2
September .. ..	96.0	4.0	92.8	7.2
December .. ..	94.8	5.2	94.0	6.0
1939 January .. ..	95.2	4.8	94.6	5.4
February .. .. .	95.3	4.7	94.7	5.3
March .. .. .	95.5	4.5	95.1	4.9
April .. .. .	95.7	4.3	95.4	4.6
May .. .. .	95.8	4.2	95.5	4.5
June .. .. .	96.0	4.0	95.7	4.3

The table above is in terms of full-time employment and unemployment. Normal seasonal variation is excluded. Allowance has been made for an estimated annual increase of 1.5 per cent. in the number of men dependent on employment. In terms of full-time employment the approximate number of men in employment in 1938, excluding relief workers, was 174,226.

## Tasmania: Employment.

Period.	Private Industry.			Public Authorities.			Total Employment— Public and Private.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
1936-37 .. .. .	30,858	9,522	40,380	10,798	1,763	12,561	41,656	11,285	52,941
1937-38 .. .. .	34,001	10,685	44,686	10,581	1,825	12,406	44,582	12,510	57,092
1938-39 .. .. .	30,105	11,250	41,355	10,486	1,877	12,363	46,591	13,127	59,718
1937-38—									
September .. ..	32,908	9,900	42,808	10,548	1,835	12,383	43,456	11,735	55,191
October .. .. .	33,182	9,873	43,055	10,337	1,846	12,183	43,519	11,719	55,238
November .. ..	34,291	10,457	44,748	10,328	1,845	12,173	44,619	12,302	56,921
December .. ..	35,029	11,068	46,097	10,775	1,831	12,606	45,804	12,899	58,703
January .. .. .	34,386	11,238	45,624	10,592	1,722	12,314	44,978	12,960	57,938
February .. ..	34,238	10,971	45,209	10,538	1,775	12,313	44,776	12,746	57,522
March .. .. .	36,017	11,940	47,957	10,702	1,831	12,533	46,719	13,771	60,490
April .. .. .	35,619	11,255	46,874	10,546	1,841	12,387	46,165	13,096	59,261
May .. .. .	34,645	10,919	45,564	10,807	1,863	12,670	45,452	12,782	58,234
June .. .. .	33,967	10,675	44,642	10,651	1,866	12,517	43,618	12,541	56,159
1938-39—									
July .. .. .	33,553	10,618	44,171	10,591	1,873	12,464	44,144	12,491	56,635
August .. .. .	33,753	10,700	44,453	10,667	1,863	12,530	44,420	12,563	56,983
September .. ..	33,751	10,793	44,544	10,593	1,875	12,468	44,344	12,668	57,012
October .. .. .	34,749	10,334	45,083	10,701	1,879	12,580	45,450	12,213	57,663
November .. ..	36,454	10,943	47,397	10,561	1,879	12,440	47,015	12,822	59,837
December .. ..	37,347	11,607	48,954	10,728	1,843	12,571	48,075	13,450	61,525
January .. .. .	36,543	11,953	48,496	10,249	1,787	12,036	46,792	13,740	60,532
February .. ..	37,324	12,069	49,393	10,624	1,893	12,517	47,948	13,962	61,910
March .. .. .	40,016	12,180	52,196	10,637	1,903	12,540	50,653	14,083	64,736
April .. .. .	37,299	11,538	48,837	10,167	1,895	12,062	47,466	13,433	60,899
May .. .. .	37,329	11,214	48,543	10,111	1,911	12,022	47,440	13,125	60,565
June .. .. .	35,139	11,046	46,185	10,208	1,925	12,133	45,347	12,971	58,318

The table above is compiled from the wages tax returns of private employers in respect of their employees, whether subject to or not subject to tax, and from returns of Commonwealth, State and Local Government employment.

For each month of 1937-38 the figures in the table may be regarded as providing a virtually complete record of total employment based on final collected figures. They are a combination of monthly figures received currently and annually, covering both private and public employment. They are deficient only to the inappreciable extent that some relief and other intermittent workers and domestic workers in private homes are not covered by the monthly returns. On the other hand, to the extent that they embrace the majority of workers subject to intermittent employment over the whole year, they reflect fully the seasonal and all other influences upon employment in Tasmania.

For the months since June, 1938, the figures are estimates based upon the current monthly movements of all public authority employment and of about 44 per cent of total private employment. For a given month the figure of total private employment of the corresponding month of the previous year is changed in the ratio of the change of the current figure of private employment. The indication of the position for all employment in Tasmania given by this technical procedure must be read in the light of other indications of current change.

#### § 4. Relief of Unemployment.

1. **Special Legislation for Relief of Unemployment.**—(i) *General.*—The position in regard to unemployment in Australia became so serious during 1930 that the usual methods of providing funds for relief work and sustenance were found to be inadequate. The cessation of loans, and the general depression in industry and business, due mainly to the decline in the prices of primary products, brought about an economic crisis in all States. The number of persons thrown out of work increased rapidly, with little prospect of conditions improving during the immediate future. The various Governments realized that special action was necessary to provide additional funds to relieve the distress caused by continued unemployment, as the money ordinarily available was not sufficient to meet the abnormal conditions.

The steps taken by the Government to provide relief and the legislation enacted in the years 1930 to 1937 for that purpose are briefly reviewed in preceding issues of the Labour Report. Mention is made below of the legislation introduced in 1938, and a summary is given of the current methods employed for the raising of funds and the distribution of relief in the various States.

(ii) *Commonwealth.*—The contribution of the Commonwealth Government to the alleviation of distress due to unemployment was mainly in the form of direct grants and loans to the States, particulars of which will be found under paragraph 3 (i) of this section. The only persons for whom the Commonwealth was directly responsible were the unemployed in the Commonwealth Territories, references to which appear hereinafter. An Advisory Committee on Employment was appointed by the Commonwealth Government in September, 1932. The Committee ceased to function on the appointment of the Honorable (afterwards Sir) F. H. Stewart, M.P., as Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Employment on 9th November, 1934. Sir Frederick resigned from this position in February, 1936.

(iii) *New South Wales.*—Legislation passed in 1938 was as follows:—Finances Adjustment Act No. 13 of 1938, and Special Income and Wages Tax Act No. 14 of 1938.

The Unemployment Relief Tax was discontinued on 30th November, 1933, and replaced by a Wages Tax on income from employment and a Special Income Tax on income from other sources. The proceeds of these taxes are paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

The rates of Wages Tax were amended from 1st December, 1937, as follows :—

Wages Per Week.			Tax.	Wages Per Week.			Tax.
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	s.	d.
3	0	1	to 3	10	0	0	10
3	10	1	to 3	15	0	1	1
3	15	1	to 3	17	6	1	2
3	17	7	to 4	0	0	1	3
4	0	1	to 4	2	0	1	6
4	2	1	to 4	4	0	1	7
4	4	1	to 4	6	0	1	8
4	6	1	to 4	8	0	1	9
4	8	1	to 4	10	0	1	10
4	10	1	to 4	12	0	2	0
4	12	1	to 4	14	0	2	1
4	14	1	to 4	16	0	2	2

Thereafter the tax is 1d. for each 2s. or part thereof up to £20 a week, except that 1d. is levied on that part of each £ exceeding 10s., but not exceeding 14s. Where wages exceed £20 a week the tax is 15s. 8d., plus 1d. for each 2s. over £20. As from 1st December, 1937, the limit of exemption was raised from £2 to £3 per week and in the case of wage-earners with dependants to £4 4s. as from 1st January, 1939. Tax on wages and salaries at rates higher than the limit of exemption is payable on the full amount of pay without deduction except a tax rebate of 6d. per week for each dependent child under 16 years of age and for the wife of a married taxpayer.

The rate of Special Income Tax where no income is derived from wages is as follows (on income derived in 1937-38) :—

Net Assessable Income.	Rate of Tax per £.		
	1st £100.	2nd £100.	Balance.
	d.	d.	d.
Not exceeding £156 .. ..	3	3	..
Over £156 but not over £208 .. ..	4	4	4
„ £208 „ „ „ £260 .. ..	4	6	8
„ £260 „ „ „ £312 .. ..	5	6	8
„ £312 „ „ „ £1,040 .. ..	5	8	9
„ £1,040 .. ..	6	8	10

Where the income is derived partly from wages and partly from other sources the rate is calculated in regard to total income. Persons resident in Australia whose income from all sources does not exceed £156 per annum are not required to pay the tax, and pension derived by residents with total income not exceeding £200 is also exempt. A tax rebate of 26s. is allowed in respect of a wife and each dependent child under sixteen years of age.

Resident taxpayers with dependant (wife or child under 16 years) whose total income does not exceed £219 are allowed a rebate of half the net tax remaining after all other rebates have been deducted.

(iv) *Victoria*.—Legislation passed in 1938 was as follows:—Unemployment Relief Loan and Application Act 1938, No. 4564; and Unemployment Relief Tax (Rates) Act 1938, No. 4575.

The rates of tax are on a sliding scale according to salary, commencing at a rate of 1.85d. in the £ for incomes of £105 to £207; 2.32d. from £208 to £311; 2.37d. from £312 to £349; and so on up to a maximum rate of 8.17d. for incomes in excess of £3,000.

(v) *Queensland*.—The Income (Unemployment Relief) Tax Acts 1930 to 1935 were repealed by the Income (State Development) Tax Act of 1938, which levies tax upon incomes from employment and other sources for the purpose of aiding in the improvement of the general economic welfare of the State and of employment generally. The rates of tax, which are operative from 1st January, 1939, are as follows:—

**Income from Employment.(a)**

Annual Rate of Income.						Rate of Tax per £.
Not exceeding £211 .. .. .						d.
Over £211 but not over £227 .. .. .						Nil
„ £227 „ „ „ £499 .. .. .						3
„ £499 „ „ „ .. .. .						6
						9

(a) The schedule is for the metropolitan district. Other districts have appropriate schedules prescribed.

**Income other than from Employment.**

Annual Rateable Income.						Rate of Tax per £.
Not exceeding £227 .. .. .						d.
Over £227 but not over £499 .. .. .						3
„ £499 .. .. .						6
						9

Persons with an income not exceeding £211 are exempt from tax.

(vi) *South Australia*.—Legislation covering special taxation for unemployment relief has not been enacted, the necessary funds being voted by Parliament from revenue.

(vii) *Western Australia*.—No legislation dealing with this subject was passed from 1932 to 1938. Special taxation has not been imposed, all money for the purposes being provided by the Government, Municipal Authorities and other bodies. There is a Hospital Tax of 1½d. in the £ applicable to all incomes over £1 per week (from 1st January, 1931). An amendment of the Financial Emergency Tax Assessment Act, 1932, provides for a graduated tax of 4d. to 9d. in the £ from 1st October, 1933, exemption being granted to all persons having an income of under 30s. per week, and to persons with dependants having an income of under £187 per annum. Under an amendment operating from 1st January, 1937, the maximum of the graduated scale was raised from 9d. to 1s. in the £, and the exemption granted to persons with dependants was raised to £194 per annum. By a further amendment operating from 1st January, 1938, the exemption was lifted to £199 per annum and by an amendment operating from 1st January, 1939, to £213 per annum.

(viii) *Tasmania*.—Legislation passed in 1938 comprised the Public Works Execution Act, Nos. 44 and 66 of 1938; Aid to Mining (Federal Grant) Act No. 68 of 1938; Federal Aid Roads and Works Execution Act Nos. 3 and 43 of 1938.

There is no special taxation for unemployment relief, relief work and sustenance being provided for from revenue.

2. **Unemployment Relief—Sustenance Rates.**—(i) *New South Wales*.—The Employment Council supervises measures for the placement of the residual unemployed in industry, and special arrangements are made for placing and training young men (aged nineteen to 25) in skilled occupations. The wages of these trainees are supplemented by the State. Where works are declared by proclamation to be works for the unemployed the wages, hours and conditions of employment may be fixed by the Minister for Labour and Industry. The labour for relief works is engaged usually through the Labour Exchanges organized in the Department of Labour and Industry. A social aid service has been established to relieve distress arising from poverty or unemployment, and, as far as practicable, to rehabilitate the persons concerned. In addition to food relief, according to the scale shown in the next table, special foods may be provided for the sick and invalided, and a pint of milk per day for mothers (before and after child-birth) and for children under seven years of age. Clothing and boots are issued twice a year and free medical attention and medicine are provided where necessary. Persons are not eligible for social aid if the family income exceeds a certain limit. In assessing income appropriate exemption is allowed in respect of earnings.

The method of distributing food relief by means of orders to suppliers introduced in 1932-33 is still in operation. The following statement shows the value of food relief orders (exclusive of special foods) per fortnight for the various family units:—

Family Unit.	Scale.	Food Relief (Per fortnight).			
		Limit of Income.	Value (Metropolitan).		
			Prior to 1st August, 1939.	From 1st August, 1939.	
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Single Adult .. ..	A	1 5 0	0 15 0	0 17 0	
Married Couple .. ..	B	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 11 0	
"    "    1 child ..	B1	2 10 0	1 18 0	2 1 0	
"    "    2 children ..	B2	3 0 0	1 19 6(a)	2 3 0(a)	
"    "    3 children ..	B3	3 5 0	2 5 6(a)	2 9 0(a)	
"    "    4 children ..	B4	3 10 0	2 11 6(a)	2 15 0(a)	
"    "    5 children ..	B5	3 15 0	2 17 6(a)	3 1 0(a)	
"    "    6 children ..	B6	4 5 0	3 3 6(a)	3 7 0(a)	
"    "    7 children ..	B7	4 15 0	3 9 6(a)	3 13 0(a)	
Each additional Child ..	..	0 10 0	0 6 0(a)	0 6 0(a)	

(a) In most cases, recipients of food relief who have two or more children under 14 years also receive Family Endowment at the rate of 10s. per fortnight for each child (except one) under the age of 14 years.

Juveniles between the ages 15 and 21 receive relief on the "single adult" scale; also children at age 14 for whom family allowance or widow's pension is not being paid.



The following is the scale of relief work provided on "Emergency" relief works (in certain areas in the Northern Coal-fields districts), and the resultant average fortnightly earnings applicable to the various family units shown. The majority of relief workers are paid at award rates, and the usual scale of work is two weeks in eight for single men, or two weeks in four for married men, with longer periods for men with the larger families who would have been entitled to such under the "emergency" relief scale.

Scale.	Family Units.	Work periods.	Average fortnightly earnings.
A.	Single man or widower without dependants .. ..	Weeks. 1 in 5	£ s. d. 1 12 0
B.	Married man .. .. Single man or widower with one dependant 14-20 years ..	} 2 in 7	2 5 9
C.	Married man with— 1 or 2 dependants under 14 years .. .. 1 dependant, 14-20 years .. .. Single man or widower with 2 dependants 14-20 years ..	} 2 in 5	3 4 0
D.	Married man with 3 dependants under 14 years ..	3 in 7	3 8 7
E.	Married man with— 4 or 5 dependants under 14 years .. .. 2 dependants, 14-20 years .. .. 1 dependant under 14 and 1 or 2 dependants 14-20 years .. .. 2 or 3 dependants under 14 and 1 dependant 14-20 years .. .. Single man or widower with 3 dependants 14-20 years ..	} 2 in 4	4 0 0
F.	Married man with— 6 or 7 dependants under 14 years .. .. 3 or 4 dependants 14-20 years .. .. 1 dependant under 14 and 3 dependants 14-20 years .. .. 2 dependants under 14 and 2 or 3 dependants 14-20 years .. .. 3 dependants under 14 and 2 dependants 14-20 years .. .. 4 dependants under 14 and 1 or 2 dependants 14-20 years .. .. 5 or 6 dependants under 14 and 1 dependant 14-20 years .. .. Single man or widower with 4 dependants 14-20 years ..	} 3 in 5	4 16 0
G.	Married man with— 8 to 12 dependants under 14 years .. .. 1 or 2 dependants under 14 and 4 dependants 14-20 years .. .. 3 or 4 dependants under 14 and 3 or 4 dependants 14-20 years .. .. 5 or 6 dependants under 14 and 2 to 4 dependants 14-20 years .. .. 7 to 12 dependants under 14 and 1 to 4 dependants 14-20 years .. ..	} 4 in 5	6 8 0

(ii) *Victoria*.—Sustenance payments are locally administered by Public Assistance Committees appointed under Act 4079 by the councils of the respective municipalities in which they are to function. The system of "working for sustenance" which was in operation in isolated instances only, was generally instituted on 3rd July, 1933.

The following are the weekly rates of sustenance in operation from 4th July, 1938:—

Family Unit.	Maximum Weekly Permissible Income.	Maximum Weekly Sustenance that may be Granted to—		
		Unemployable for whom Sustenance has been Specially Authorized by the Hon. the Minister.	Employable Applicant for whom Work in Return for Sustenance is not Provided.	Employable Male Working in Return for Sustenance, vide Section (8) of the Act.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Itinerant unemployed male	10 0	..	11 0	17 6
Approved prospector	12 0	..	11 0	17 6
Individual residing with strangers or relatives other than parents	12 0	6 6	11 0	17 6
Single unemployed employable male 21 years of age or over as member of family unit the head of which is in receipt of sustenance	In accordance with family unit of which he is a member	..	5 0	10 0
Two .. .. .	20 0	9 9	13 6	30 6
Three .. .. .	25 0	And for each unemployed dependant ir-	And for each male unemployed dependant under 21 years	And for each unemployed dependant residing with the applicant—
Four .. .. .	27 6	respective of age, 4s. 6d. per week ;	of age, and for each unemployed female dependant ir-	(a) 4s. per week for each dependant under 16 years of age,
Five .. .. .	30 0	Provided in any instance the total value of sustenance does not exceed 41s. 9d. per week.	respective of age, 4s. per week ;	(b) 5s. per week for each male 16 years and under 21 years of age,
Six .. .. .	32 6		Provided in any instance the total value of sustenance does not exceed 50s. 6d. per week.	(c) 5s. per week for each female 16 years of age or over ;
Seven .. .. .	35 0			Provided in any instance the total value of sustenance does not exceed 62s. 6d. per week.
Eight .. .. .	37 6			
Nine .. .. .	40 0			
Ten .. .. .	42 6			

Under the Act and Regulations "Income" is defined as the full amount of money earned by the applicant and all members of the family residing with him (including any pension, allowance, bonus, commission, or other benefit, and money received from all sources except from charitable organizations or societies).

In no instance must the total amount of the income received by the family and the value of the sustenance granted exceed £3 14s. in any one week. In assessing the amount of income to decide eligibility to receive sustenance, the following amounts are not taken into account:—

- (1) A sum of 7s. 6d. per week of the total amount paid to the applicant and the members of the family residing with him by the British Government or Commonwealth of Australia by way of pension in respect of disabilities caused by war ; and

- (2) The sum of 7s. 6d. of the total weekly amount paid to members of the family residing with the applicant or with whom he resides by the Commonwealth of Australia by way of an invalid and/or old-age pension.

Men in receipt of sustenance may be called upon to work in return for sustenance by the municipality where sustenance is received, and the hours to be worked are computed by dividing the sustenance to which recipients are entitled under the Regulations by the hourly wage operating in the municipality in which the work is performed. This means that if a recipient of sustenance were entitled to 38s. 6d. per week and the wage was 12s. 6d. per day of eight hours or 1s. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. an hour, the number of hours to be worked would be computed by dividing 38s. 6d. by 1s. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. The work that may be undertaken as work in return for sustenance by municipalities is any which municipal councils are empowered or required to do or perform under the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1928 or of any other Act, except private street construction and any other works in respect of which property-owners are required to contribute a portion or the whole of the cost. In connexion with the utilization of work in return for sustenance no male person ordinarily employed by the municipality must be dismissed or otherwise cease to be employed. Where work in return for sustenance is performed the payment of sustenance is made in cash. In other cases sustenance is granted to persons entitled thereto in such a manner as the Minister may, from time to time, direct.

Eighty-five per cent. (85%) of the persons in receipt of sustenance in the State are working in return therefor, and the weekly rates are as set out in column 5 of the schedule above. The balance of 15 per cent. comprises employable unemployed males in receipt of sustenance for whom the municipality is unable to provide work. In such cases the weekly rate of sustenance is in accordance with column 4 of the schedule.

In addition to relief in the form of sustenance, assistance is afforded by employment on unemployment relief works undertaken by governmental departments and various public authorities, including charitable institutions, municipal councils, sewerage authorities and waterworks trusts.

Under existing unemployment relief work conditions, men upon whose earnings other persons are ordinarily dependent for support, receive full-time employment each week for eleven weeks if they are unable to return to their homes each night, and for eight weeks, if they are able to return to their homes each night. Men upon whose earnings no other persons are ordinarily dependent for support receive 24 hours work each week, for twelve weeks if camped out, and for eight weeks if they are able to return to their homes each night.

The great bulk of these workers are employed on works of classes which are ordinarily governed by either the Australian Workers' Union Award No. 7 of 1937, or the Australian Railways Union Award, and receive the rates of pay prescribed by those Awards, including margins and allowances where applicable.

(iii) *Queensland*.—The Intermittent Relief Scheme, which had been in operation since 1931 in all the larger towns of the State, and which provided work through Local Authorities and Government Departments for all persons eligible to draw food relief, entered upon its closing stages from the 16th September, 1938. After that date all single men and 50 per cent. of married men were reverted to ration relief assistance. In January, 1939, a further

50 per cent. of married men were reverted to ration relief assistance and the scheme was totally abolished at 30th June, 1939. The scheme is being replaced by the Government's new development full-time employment plan under which the labour required is selected from those persons in receipt of ration relief assistance according to priority.

As from 23rd September, 1938, ration relief assistance was issued in the form of half cash and half rations instead of as previously wholly in rations. The classification of the family units and amounts allotted thereto are shown in the following table :—

Family Units and Weekly Ration Scale.

Family Unit.				Weekly Ration Scale, as from 31st May, 1937.	
				s.	d.
Single man	..	..	..	8	0
Man and wife	..	..	..	17	0
Man, wife and 1 child	..	..	..	20	9
" " 2 children	..	..	..	24	6
" " 3 "	..	..	..	28	3
" " 4 "	..	..	..	32	0
" " 5 "	..	(iv)	..	35	9
" " 6 "	..	..	..	39	6
" " 7 "	..	..	..	43	3
" " 8 "	..	..	..	47	0
" " 9 "	..	..	..	50	9
" " 10 "	..	..	..	54	6
" " 11 "	..	..	..	58	3
Widows and single girls without dependants	..	..	..	8	0
Widows and single girls with 1 dependant	..	..	..	15	6
For each additional dependant	..	..	..	3	9

(a) Or widower plus one additional dependant to those scheduled.

The rates above are increased in the northern and western parts of the State by the addition of parities.

Sons over 18 years of age are also entitled to relief provided the father's weekly earnings do not exceed certain amounts commencing at £4 5s. 6d. and advancing by 4s. 6d. in respect of each child in the family under 18 years of age above four in number.

(iv) *South Australia*.—The issue of unemployment relief is controlled by the Unemployment Relief Council.

The cost of relief for the various family units is as follows :—

Family Unit.				Per Week.	
				s.	d.
Single person	..	..	..	6	6
Man and wife	..	..	..	14	6

For each child in the home, the following is the cost of relief, viz. :—

13 years and over	..	..	..	6	6
Over 9 years and under 13	..	..	..	5	8½
" 6 " " " 9	..	..	..	5	0
" 3 " " " 6	..	..	..	4	5½
" 1 " " " 3	..	..	..	3	8½

Separate relief orders are issued for groceries, bread, meat, vegetables fresh milk, and firewood. The grocery order is issued for a definite value, and the recipient selects goods from the list thereon, to the value stated. The fruit and vegetable order is also a "value" one and, at the recipient's option, it may be used for additional groceries, bread, or fresh milk, instead of vegetables. The bread, meat, and milk orders are issued for definite quantities. In September, 1938, the ration scale was revised by a special Medical Committee.

Contract prices are arranged for all items on the ration list, and the unit costs shown above consequently vary from time to time, although the amount of relief available to the recipient remains constant. These rates are calculated on the contract prices operating in the metropolitan area. In country areas the cost varies considerably in the different towns, but the recipient receives the same amount of relief as in the metropolitan area. The quantitative orders would not affect the recipient, and a necessary percentage is added to those orders which are issued on the value basis. The value of the relief to the recipient is, of course, greater than that shown, as the contract system enhances the value of the order.

Married men are granted 1 cwt. of firewood weekly, and during the winter months this allowance is increased to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cwt. weekly. Infants not naturally fed are supplied with fresh milk, sugar, fruit, and cereals, and if such food is considered unsuitable by a medical officer special foods are substituted as may be recommended. To assist those recipients of relief threatened with eviction to meet rental charges, one day's work per week is provided at the basic or award rate.

In a number of centres, both in the metropolitan area and in the country, recipients of relief render services in return for the relief issued to them, plus a subsidy from the local governing authority. The subsidy, which is a percentage of the cost of relief issued to each recipient, varies from 25 per cent. to 100 per cent. in the different districts. The subsidy is always paid in cash, but in some instances the ration costs are not paid in cash, as the recipients desire to have the advantage of the contract system. Under this scheme the full amount earned is paid by the local authorities, who are reimbursed by the Unemployment Relief Council to the extent of the relief costs involved. Tools and materials are found by the local authorities, and the length of time to be worked is calculated at the basic or award rate applying to the particular class of work being undertaken.

There are no established intermittent relief works operating in this State, but various works are put in hand from time to time for the purpose of providing some work for the unemployed. Apart from such works and the Relief Subsidy Scheme there are no general intermittent relief works.

(v) *Western Australia*.—Relief is granted to unemployed married men at the rate of 7s. per member of the family per week, with a maximum amount of 49s. per week, of which 2s. in cash is paid in respect of each 7s. Children over fourteen years of age are not eligible. Single men are given part-time employment at Arbitration rates enabling them to earn at the rate of 33s. 2d. per week. If incapable of work, meal tickets are provided and the men are billeted in approved lodging houses.

From the 1st August, 1933, employment on relief work has been on a rotary basis. The following is the scale of relief work now provided, and the resultant average earnings per week applicable to the family unit shown, together with the rates of sustenance per week to those not engaged on relief works.

Family Unit.(a)	Employment on Relief Works.(b)			Sustenance.	
	Periods of Rotation.	Periods of full-time work* included in "A."	Average earnings per week† over period "A" of earnings during period "B."	Rate per week (applicable only to those not engaged on Relief Works).	
	"A."	"B."		s.	d.
Married couple	weeks. 8	weeks. 6	£ s. d. 3 4 3	14	0
" " with 1 child	9	7	3 6 8	21	0
" " " 2 children	8	7	3 15 0	28	0
" " " 3 " "	full-time	full-time	4 5 8	35	0
" " " 4 " "	"	"	4 5 8	42	0
" " " 5 or more children	"	"	4 5 8	49	0

\* At arbitration rates.

† Average earnings shown fluctuate proportionately in accordance with any alteration in the basic wage.

(a) Single men are provided each week with work equivalent to the value of 33s. 2d.

(b) After completion of "B" no further work or sustenance is available until the elapse of the balance of the corresponding rotation period shown in "A".

(vi) *Tasmania*.—The following scale of sustenance rates has been in operation since 1st June, 1939 :—

Family Unit.	Hobart and Suburbs.			Launceston and Suburbs.(a)		
	Sustenance.		Sustenance Work.	Sustenance.		Sustenance Work.
	Dole per week.	Hours of Work.		Dole per week.	Hours of Work.	
	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.		s. d.
Single person .. ..	10 3	8½	15 1	10 3	8½	14 8
Married couple .. ..	19 10	16	28 1	19 7	16	27 9
" " with 1 child..	23 5	19	33 3	23 2	19	32 10
" " " 2 children	27 0	22	38 6	26 9	22	38 0
" " " 3 " "	30 7	25	43 9	30 3	24½	42 11
" " " 4 " "	31 9	26½	45 11	31 6	25½	44 7
" " " 5 " "	35 1	28½	50 4	34 9	28½	49 7
" " " 6 " "	38 5	31½	55 7	38 1	31½	54 5
" " " 7 " "	41 9	34½	59 11	41 4	34	58 10
" " " 8 " "	45 1	35½	61 8	44 8	35	60 7

(a) Rates for country towns are regulated by a special schedule, and are lower than the rates shown in this table.

NOTE.—When work for sustenance is performed payment is made in cash. When no work is performed sustenance orders on the various storekeepers are issued to the men.

Arrangements are made with Municipal Councils whereby men in receipt of sustenance perform a certain number of hours' work each week and receive payment in cash. The Council is reimbursed the wages paid by submitting a claim to the Social Services Department. The work provided by such Councils is in addition to that which would ordinarily be undertaken. The Councils are not to reduce the annual votes for works because of the extra items, and are not to displace any permanent employees. The men are

to be employed at the basic rate of pay, for a sufficient number of hours each week to cover the amount of sustenance authorized by the Department. The Councils mainly provide supervision, tools and equipment; also material required for the work.

(vii) *Australian Capital Territory*.—The original practice of granting rations was changed to a scheme of payment of the equivalent cash to that previously received in food value. The scale of sustenance per week, and the earnings under the scheme in operation from 30th June, 1939, are shown below:—

Family Unit.			Scale of Sustenance per week.		Maximum Earnings Allowed.*
			s.	d.	s. d.
Single person	..	..	7	2	34 0
Man and wife	..	..	12	2	80 0
Man, wife and one child	..	..	17	9	80 0
"	"	2 or 3 children	22	4	104 0
"	"	4 or 5 children	26	4	126 0
"	"	6 children ..	27	4	149 0
"	"	7 children ..	30	2	195 0
"	"	8 children ..	31	3	218 0

\* For period of four weeks.

The earnings are taken over a period of four weeks, and no relief is granted when they exceed the amounts mentioned during such period taken as a whole.

The scheme for the alleviation of distress from unemployment in the Territory was on the 1st October, 1934, based on an average allotment of relief work of one week in two for married men, and one week in four for single men. This allotment fluctuated somewhat until in March, 1936, the men (married and single) were placed on full time. This favourable condition obtained until the end of June, but rationing of work became necessary again early in July, 1936, pending the organization and development of the 1936-37 works programme. In 1937-38 both married and single men were employed full-time from November, 1937, to June, 1938, and whilst this continued for married men, the single men reverted to one week's work in four from 1st September until 30th November, when they were restored to full-time for the month of December. From 1st January, 1939, to 31st March, 1939, single men were employed for one week's work in two, after which they resumed full-time employment, which continued to 30th June, 1939. The allotment is made irrespective of the sizes of families, the differences in domestic conditions as regards individuals being remedied by the scheme of graduated income standards and ration scale. In the case of families of four and five children, the maximum allotment is increased to three weeks in five. Additional funds occasionally make it possible to increase the ratios mentioned above.

(viii) *Northern Territory*.—The position regarding the provision of work for unemployment relief in the Northern Territory is as follows:—

Married men with not less than three years residential qualification—three days per week.

Married men who have resided in the Territory for twelve months, but less than three years—one day per week.

Single men with not less than twelve months' residential qualification—one day per week.

The basic wage is paid, which is at present 18s. 1d. per day.



Ration orders are issued to sick persons, destitute women and children and to the aged and infirm, each case being dealt with on its merits. Concessions are granted in regard to such matters as hospital treatment, burials, fares out of the Territory, repatriation of aged Chinese, &c.

(ix) *Summary for all States and Territories.*—The following is a summary of the foregoing rates of unemployment relief in all States and Territories for the "family units" shown :—

### UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF.

#### Summary of Rates Operative in the various States and Territories.

##### I. Sustenance Rates (for work).\*

(PER WEEK.)

State.	Single Man.	Married Man.	Married Man and—		
			One Child.	Two Children.	Three† Children.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
New South Wales (a) ..	16 0	22 11	32 0	32 0	34 4
Victoria ..	17 6(b)	30 6	34 6(c)	38 0(c)	42 6(c)
Queensland (d) ..	..	..	..	..	..
South Australia (e) ..	..	..	..	..	..
Western Australia ..	33 2	64 3	66 8	75 0	85 8(f)
Tasmania ..	15 1	28 1	33 3	38 6	43 9
Northern Territory ..	18 1	54 3(g)	..	..	..
Australian Capital Territory (h)	..	..	..	..	..

\* Worked on various rotational bases.

† Similarly graduated scales (up to fixed maxima) for larger families.

(a) Rates on "emergency" relief works (in certain areas in the Northern Coalfields Districts)—see p. 114.

(b) Single employable male 21 or over, member of family in receipt of sustenance—10s.

(c) 1s. extra for each unemployed male dependant 16–20 years, or each unemployed female dependant 16 years or over residing with applicant provided value of sustenance does not exceed 62s. 6d. per week.

(d) The Intermittent Relief Scheme was totally abolished at 30th June, 1939, and is being replaced by a new development full-time employment plan (see p. 116.).

(e) See note (c) Table II.

(f) Full-time work provided.

(g) With not less than 3 years residential qualification.

(h) Full-time work at award rates provided since 1st April, 1939.

##### II. Sustenance Rates (without work).

(PER WEEK.)

State.	Single Man.	Married Man.	Married Man and—		
			One Child.	Two Children.	Three* Children.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
New South Wales ..	8 6	15 6	20 6	21 6	24 6
Victoria ..	11 0(a)	18 6(b)	22 6(b)	26 6(b)	30 6(b)
Queensland ..	8 0	17 0	20 9	24 6	28 3
South Australia (c) ..	6 6	14 6	19 7(d)	24 8(d)	29 9(d)
Western Australia ..	(e)	14 0	21 0	28 0	35 0
Tasmania ..	10 3	19 10	23 5	27 0	30 7
Northern Territory ..	(f)	(f)	(f)	(f)	(f)
Australian Capital Territory	7 2	12 2	17 9	22 4	22 4

\* Similarly graduated scales (up to fixed maxima) for larger families.

(a) Unemployables residing with others than parents—6s. 6d.

(b) Rates represent 4s. for each unemployed male dependant under 21, and for each female dependant residing with applicant, provided the weekly value of sustenance does not exceed 50s. 6d. Unemployables for whom sustenance specially approved receive 9s. 9d. per week and for each unemployed dependant irrespective of age, 4s. 0d. per week.

(c) In a number of centres recipients work out the cost of rations (at Arbitration rates) to which is added a cash subsidy ranging according to the district from 25 per cent. to 100 per cent. of the value of such cost. The ration value may be either in cash or kind. Recipients threatened with eviction are given one day's work per week to assist in meeting rental charges.

(d) Rates for children vary from 3s. 8½d. to 6s. 6d. according to age, but average has been taken at 5s. 1d. No fixed maximum for family.

(e) Provided with meal tickets and billeted in approved lodging house if incapable of work.

(f) Ration orders are issued to sick persons, destitute women and children, and to the aged and infirm, each case being dealt with on its merits.

3. **Unemployment Relief Funds.**—(i) *Commonwealth.*—The Commonwealth Government made available to the States in 1929–30 from the Federal Aid Roads Account the sum of £1,000,000, appropriated by Act No. 55 of 1930, for the relief of unemployment; and further supplemented this amount by £750,000 in 1930–31 and £304,000 in 1931–32. The Loan (Unemployment Relief Works) Act, No. 9 of 1932, authorized the raising of money to the amount of £1,800,000 for assisting the States in the relief of unemployment. The money was free of interest, and the amounts allotted to the States were as follows:—New South Wales, £600,000; Victoria, £475,000; Queensland, £310,000; South Australia, £195,000; Western Australia, £145,000; Tasmania, £75,000. The payments were conditional on the expenditure being on approved reproductive works, and on the States providing equivalent amounts. The required sum was borrowed by the Commonwealth from the Commonwealth Bank, and the States borrowed £1,200,000 from the same source, making a total of £3,000,000 available for the purpose indicated. The amount of £600,000 granted to New South Wales was distributed by the Commonwealth and was not subject to the £1 for £1 condition. In December, 1932, the Government allocated a further £100,000 to the States for expenditure on Commonwealth works, in order to mitigate the condition of the workless at the Christmas season, and (from Loans) in 1933–34, £300,000. For the year 1934–35, the expenditure from revenue was £161,000. During 1934–35 the Loan Appropriation (Unemployment Relief) Act, No. 66 of 1934, was passed appropriating moneys for assisting the States in the re-employment of men, by means of public works and assistance to the metalliferous mining industry. This Act was amended by Act No. 2 of 1935 to include assistance in connexion with forestry works.

In addition to assistance to the States, the Loan Appropriation (Unemployment Relief) Act 1934–35 appropriated the following amounts for direct expenditure by the Commonwealth:—

	£
On Public Works .. .. .	400,000
In assistance to the metalliferous mining industry .. .. .	50,000
For Forestry works .. .. .	9,000

The amounts appropriated for the States by the Loan Appropriation (Unemployment Relief) Act 1934–35 were—

State.	For Public Works.	For Metalliferous Mining.	For Forestry.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
New South Wales .. .. .	350,000	42,500	50,000	442,500
Victoria .. .. .	225,000	50,000	100,000	375,000
Queensland .. .. .	125,000	70,000	30,000	225,000
South Australia .. .. .	125,000	33,500	17,000	175,500
Western Australia .. .. .	125,000	62,000	100,000	287,000
Tasmania .. .. .	50,000	25,750	25,000	100,750
Total .. .. .	1,000,000	283,750	322,000	1,605,750

The grants to the States for mining are subject to £1 for £1 contribution in respect of part thereof, and the grants for forestry are subject to each State (except South Australia and Tasmania) spending an amount equivalent to the sum received from the Commonwealth.

By Act No. 13 of 1936 the amounts provided for assistance to the States in respect of mining and forestry were supplemented by further grants from Revenue to be made available during 1936-37 and 1937-38 (upon similar conditions) as follows :—

	For Metalliferous Mining.		For Forestry.	
	Financial Year 1936-37.	Financial Year 1937-38.	Financial Year 1936-37.	Financial Year 1937-38.
	£	£	£	£
New South Wales .. ..	19,600	13,600	25,000	12,500
Victoria .. ..	27,000	18,700	50,000	25,000
Queensland .. ..	35,600	24,900	15,000	7,500
South Australia .. ..	12,800	..	8,500	4,250
Western Australia .. ..	34,600	9,800	50,000	25,000
Tasmania .. ..	10,400	3,000	12,500	6,250
	140,000	70,000	161,000	80,500

Under Act No. 12 of 1936 a sum of £100,000 yearly was granted from Revenue for the ten years commencing 1st July, 1935, for payment to the States in the following proportions :—

	£
New South Wales .. ..	39,400
Victoria .. ..	27,400
Queensland .. ..	14,450
South Australia .. ..	8,700
Western Australia .. ..	6,650
Tasmania .. ..	3,400
	100,000

This measure provides that the grant shall be devoted to the payment of interest and sinking fund on approved loans raised by public authorities (preferably outside metropolitan areas) and the assistance is conditional upon grants of equal value for the same purpose by State Governments. The primary object of the grant is the relief of unemployment in country districts.

Under Act No. 71 of 1936 a sum of £150,000 was appropriated from Revenue for payment to the States by way of grant to be expended in the provision of assistance to persons out of employment. The object of this grant was to provide relief to persons out of work at the 1936 Christmas season.

The amount of £150,000 was distributed as follows :—

	£
New South Wales .. ..	59,200
Victoria .. ..	40,900
Queensland .. ..	21,700
South Australia .. ..	13,000
Western Australia .. ..	10,000
Tasmania .. ..	5,200
	150,000

Under Act No. 46 of 1937, a sum of £100,000 was appropriated for direct expenditure by the Commonwealth in the States and Territories on public works and services. The purpose of this expenditure was to provide to as great an extent as possible additional employment for those who are unemployed at or about Christmas time.

(ii) *New South Wales*.—The receipts and expenditure in connexion with the relief of Unemployment in New South Wales are not available apart from totals which include other forms of charitable relief and social services, but the following amounts are shown in the various Treasurers' Statements as having been spent on food relief in the years 1930-31 to 1938-39 :—

Year.	£	Year.	£
1930-31 ..	1,837,886	1935-36 ..	980,760
1931-32 ..	5,070,732	1936-37 ..	1,114,950
1932-33 ..	3,511,978	1937-38 ..	1,263,901
1933-34 ..	1,467,953	1938-39 ..	1,419,836 (a)
1934-35 ..	1,076,670		

(a) Other direct expenditure from revenue for relief of unemployment in 1938-39, included relief works £405,880; work subsidies £67,937; training of unemployed youths £197,545; clothing, medical service, etc., for unemployed £146,226; administration £241,617.

(iii) *Victoria*.—The following statement shows the receipts and expenditure from the Unemployment Relief Fund for the years 1931-32 to 1938-39 :—

Year.	Receipts. £	Expenditure. £
1931-32 ..	1,622,401	1,625,458
1932-33 ..	1,731,721	1,569,356
1933-34 ..	1,618,396	1,766,873
1934-35 ..	1,695,707	1,898,132
1935-36 ..	1,984,754	1,754,165
1936-37 ..	1,966,435	1,760,022
1937-38 ..	1,963,640	1,962,097
1938-39 ..	1,914,000 (a)	2,055,000 (a)

(a) Approximate.

(iv) *Queensland*.—The receipts and expenditure in connexion with the Unemployment Relief Fund for the years 1931-32 to 1938-39 were as follows :—

Year.	Receipts. £	Expenditure. £
1931-32 ..	1,089,645	1,200,674
1932-33 ..	1,806,010	1,771,111
1933-34 ..	1,967,942	1,903,888
1934-35 ..	2,425,917	1,674,393
1935-36 ..	2,494,637	2,653,182
1936-37 ..	2,637,172	3,059,964
1937-38 ..	2,808,961	2,664,314
1938-39 ..	2,451,354	2,232,795

In addition to the above, the Queensland Unemployment Insurance Fund, which is maintained by the joint contributions from employers, workers, and Government, provides moneys for the relief of the unemployed. In 1938-39 the expenditure from the Fund was £655,571, of which £494,862 represented sustenance payments.

(v) *South Australia*.—There is no special unemployment taxation in this State. The moneys required for the relief of unemployment are provided from General Revenue. In addition the Minister may issue licences to charitable organizations to raise moneys for the relief of unemployment in their districts. The total expenditure on Unemployment Relief (excluding Children's Welfare and Public Relief) during 1931-32 was £852,059; for 1932-33, £622,331; 1933-34, £534,418; 1934-35, £483,436; 1935-36, £413,035; 1936-37, £375,127; 1937-38, £319,067; and 1938-39, £304,082.

(vi) *Western Australia*.—Special unemployment taxation is not levied in this State. Amounts required for sustenance and general relief of destitution are provided by the Government from Consolidated Revenue. The expenditure on unemployment relief from 1931-32 onwards was as follows:—

Year.	From Revenue.		From Loan.
	Sustenance Relief.	Sustenance Work.	Reproductive Relief. Works.
	£	£	£
1931-32 .. .. .	643 996	..	1,202,547
1932-33 .. .. .	196,123	149,833	1,183,864
1933-34 .. .. .	182,953	49,239	1,884,897
1934-35 .. .. .	56,301	16,195	2,077,326
1935-36 .. .. .	35,275	14,595	2,011,888
1936-37 .. .. .	36,323	14,821	1,772,893
1937-38 .. .. .	37,945	14,021	1,168,389
1938-39 .. .. .	33,478	13,381	1,484,116

(vii) *Tasmania*.—The amounts expended from Revenue during the last eight years on unemployment relief including relief work and sustenance for the unemployed are as follows:—

Year.	Expenditure.
	£
1931-32 .. .. .	70,000
1932-33 .. .. .	69,892
1933-34 .. .. .	168,350
1934-35 .. .. .	203,867
1935-36 .. .. .	193,645
1936-37 .. .. .	178,573
1937-38 .. .. .	174,672
1938-39 .. .. .	150,089

The amount of £150,089 for 1938-39 includes £75,585 for relief work in lieu, and £16,630 for sustenance.

(viii) *Australian Capital Territory*.—There is no special taxation levied for the relief of unemployment in the Australian Capital Territory. The works upon which the unemployed are dependent have, in recent years, been largely financed from the annual appropriation for Defence, New Works, Buildings, &c., and to a lesser degree from the votes for Maintenance services. In addition, various additional amounts have been made available from time to time from special appropriations to supplement existing votes with a view to increasing the ratio of employment. The amounts expended as purely unemployment relief measures in each year cannot therefore be stated,

as they form a part of the general works programme within the Territory. Special provision is made, however, for the alleviation of distress, and the expenditure under this heading during the past five financial years was as follows:—1934-35, £2,405; 1935-36, £1,869; 1936-37, £848; 1937-38, £1,464; and 1938-39, £1,123. This expenditure includes rations granted in certain cases, work in lieu of rations for itinerants, payments to the Canberra Relief Society for subsequent disbursement, the supply of firewood for unemployment camps and railway fares for destitute persons.

(ix) *Northern Territory*.—Special funds are provided for unemployment relief in the estimates of expenditure for the Territory. The expenditure in 1934-35 was £4,455; in 1935-36, £4,739; in 1936-37, £5,000; in 1937-38, £8,825; and in 1938-39, £4,658.

(x) *Loan Expenditure*.—In addition to expenditure from ordinary revenue, a large amount was also expended in the various States from Loan funds, but owing to the complication of moneys being advanced by the Commonwealth to the States expenditure by the Commonwealth in the States and the difficulty of stating the extent to which the ordinary Loan programmes of the States relieved unemployment, it is almost impossible to publish satisfactory figures for the nine years, 1930-31 to 1938-39. The most that can be claimed for such expenditure in connexion with the relief of unemployment is that had it been curtailed on the grounds of financial stringency, unemployment would undoubtedly have been greater. The Gross Loan Expenditure on Works, &c., by the States amounted to £21,562,209 in 1938-39.

4. **Numbers in Receipt of Sustenance**.—The number of persons in receipt of unemployment relief in its various forms cannot be accurately determined, but the following statement shows the numbers (exclusive of dependants) in receipt of or working for sustenance or working "part-time" on relief works in the various States at the 30th June, 1939:—

State.			
New South Wales	..	..	58,024
Victoria	..	..	21,353
Queensland	..	..	16,402
South Australia	..	..	7,339
Western Australia	..	..	7,048 <sup>(a)</sup>
Tasmania	..	..	1,181
Northern Territory	..	..	93
Australian Capital Territory	..	..	..
Total	..	..	III,440

(a) Includes 498 men "standing down" and 2,573 working full-time, the latter comprising a certain number of foremen and other "key" men and all married men with three or more children.

Workers engaged "part-time" on "relief" works, mostly on a "rotational" system are either directly employed by the various governments or through local government authorities. In addition to these, however, large numbers are employed on a "whole-time" basis on works which from their nature can hardly be regarded as purely for the relief of unemployment. As the cost is made a charge against the ordinary votes for works and services and loan appropriations, it has not been possible to secure satisfactory information in regard to the numbers engaged from a "relief" point of view.

## § 5. State Free Employment Bureaux.

1. **General.**—There is considerable diversity in the scope of the several State Employment Bureaux, as well as in the methods adopted for registration of applicants for employment. Information in regard to these Bureaux was published in Labour Report, No. 19. Details were given concerning systems of registration of applicants for employment, selection of applicants for vacant positions, granting sustenance and food relief, and other matters. In Labour Report No. 20, particulars relating to the organization of the State Free Labour Bureaux in the several States were given.

The work of the State Employment Bureaux greatly increased in 1930 owing to the abnormal amount of unemployment. The peak number of applications for work was, however, received in the March quarter of 1931. Skilled and semi-skilled workers, who in the past had not availed themselves of the services of the Bureaux, registered for relief work, as there was little prospect of employment in their usual occupations. Special legislation in 1930 for the relief of unemployment provided that registration at the Bureaux was essential before relief work or sustenance could be obtained, and resulted in increased registrations for employment.

2. **Applications and Positions Filled.**—The following table shows the number of applications for employment and from employers received at the various State Free Labour Bureaux in Australia in the years 1934 to 1938. The number of positions to which workpeople were sent is also shown. The figures relating to applications for employment received do not, however, necessarily represent the number of individuals applying for employment, since the same persons may apply more than once in the twelve months:—

**State Free Employment Bureaux: Summary, Australia.**

Year.				Applications for Employment received.	Applications from Employers received. (a)	Positions filled.
1934	..	..	..	548,270	142,854	153,176
1935	..	..	..	348,009	108,413	115,840
1936	..	..	..	346,919	103,371	109,389
1937	..	..	..	290,214	110,628	115,193
1938	..	..	..	253,823	88,844	87,915

(a) Exclusive of Tasmania.

## § 6. Industrial Accidents.

1. **Source of Information.**—The following tables have been compiled from returns received from the Chief Inspectors of Factories, the Chief Inspectors of Machinery, and from Boiler, Lift, and Scaffolding Inspectors in the several States. In the Annual Reports issued by the State Departments, special sections are published relating to accidents in industrial undertakings. Reference to these Reports will afford more detailed information. The appreciative thanks of the Bureau are extended to the officials of the various State Departments, including the officials of the Mining Departments, who very kindly supplied the summarized returns shown hereunder.



2. **Number of Accidents Reported.**—The following table shows the number of accidents reported in each State in the years 1934 to 1938 :—

**Industrial Accidents, 1934 to 1938.**

Particulars.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A. (b)	Tas.	Total.
No. of Fatal Accidents	1934 ..	55	24	21	1	37	7	145
	1935 ..	42	21	12	5	37	3	120
	1936 ..	46	22	17	7	49	7	148
	1937 ..	64	38	24	4	51	8	189
	1938 ..	54	26	17	12	34	3	146
No. of Accidents incapacitating for over 14 days	1934 ..	(a) 5,696	720	479	117	1,287	136	8,435
	1935 ..	" 6,134	719	480	222	1,442	177	9,174
	1936 ..	" 7,802	739	546	180	2,035	107	11,409
	1937 ..	" 8,150	1,027	665	156	1,752	136	11,886
	1938 ..	" 9,704	976	746	190	1,917	128	13,661

(a) *Vide* remarks below.

(b) Includes accidents reported by the Chief Conservator of Forests

Compared with 1937 the numbers of deaths from industrial accidents in 1938 increased in South Australia and decreased in all other States. The number of non-fatal accidents increased in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia and decreased in Victoria and Tasmania. Non-fatal accidents in New South Wales and Western Australia showed a considerable increase on the number recorded in the previous year.

The large number of accidents recorded in New South Wales during recent years was due to an amendment of the Act which provided that all accidents which prevented workers from returning to work within seven days must be reported. Figures for this State are, therefore, not exactly comparable with those for other States. Further, the definition of a non-fatal accident is not on uniform lines in all States.

3. **Accidents in Industrial Groups.**—The next table gives the number of accidents in industrial groups in Australia in 1938.

**Industrial Accidents: Number in Industrial Groups, Australia, 1938.**

Industrial Group.		Fatal.	Incapacitating for over 14 days. (b)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	..	4	664
II. Engineering, etc. ..	..	(a) 9	(a) 5,048
III. Food, Drink, etc. ..	..	2	1,107
IV. Clothing, Hats, etc. ..	..	..	419
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	..	1	451
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	..	15	2,734
VII. Building and Scaffolding ..	..	13	41
VIII. Mining ..	..	98	2,871
IX. Lifts ..	..	2	17
X. Miscellaneous ..	..	2	309
Total ..	..	146	13,661

(a) Includes accidents reported by the Chief Inspector of Factories in New South Wales as having occurred in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works. In previous years these accidents were included in Group VIII. Mining.

(b) *Vide* remarks above.

The largest number of fatal accidents occurred in the mining industry, representing 67 per cent. The largest number of non-fatal accidents occurred in engineering, etc. (37 per cent.). It should be pointed out, however, that the figures for 1938 are not directly comparable with those for previous years as accidents in ore dressing, smelting works, etc., in New South Wales previously included in Group VIII. Mining are now included in the engineering group.

Thirteen fatal accidents occurred in connexion with building and scaffolding, and two deaths resulted from lift accidents. Thirty-one fatal, and 10,423 non-fatal accidents were reported in the manufacturing industries, and 5,048 of the total occurred in the engineering and metal-working group.

4. **Mining Accidents.**—(i) *Sources of Information.*—Information regarding mining accidents is obtained from the Departments of Mines in the respective States, except as regards accidents occurring in smelting and metallurgical works which are registered as factories and are under the jurisdiction of the Chief Inspectors of Factories.

(ii) *Classification.*—The following tables give particulars of mining accidents reported to the Mines Departments, and, except for New South Wales, in regard to accidents in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works reported to Inspectors of Factories in each State in the year 1938.

**Mining Accidents: Classification according to Causes, 1938.(a)**  
**A.—Fatal Accidents.**

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
<b>METALLIFEROUS MINES.</b>							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	1	2	3	..	..	..	6
"      "      Falls of Ground	5	3	1	..	8	..	17
"      "      Falling down							
shafts, etc.	2	1	3	..	5	..	11
Other Accidents .. ..	..	..	4	..	8	..	12
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in							
motion .. ..	3	..	1	..	1	..	5
Other Accidents .. ..	5	1	..	2	4	2	14
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing,							
Smelting and other Metallurgical							
Works, etc. .. ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
4. Quarries, Brick and Clay Pits, etc. ..	..	11	..	3	1	..	15
<b>COAL MINES.</b>							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions							
(Fire Damp, etc.) .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Accidents caused by Explosives							
(Dynamite, etc.) .. ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth	5	1	1	..	..	..	7
Other Accidents .. ..	2	..	1	..	..	..	3
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in							
motion .. ..	3	..	..	..	..	..	3
Other Accidents .. ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total .. ..	28	21	14	5	28	2	98

(a) The figures relating to mining accidents do not in all cases correspond with those published by the States Mines Departments, the discrepancies being partly due to the fact that accidents occurring in certain metallurgical works and quarries are not included in the figures issued by the Mines Departments, and partly to the lack of uniformity regarding the definition of a non-fatal accident.

## B.—Non-fatal Accidents Incapacitating for over 14 days.

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
<b>METALLIFEROUS MINES.</b>							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives . . .	5	2	4	1	6	1	19
"       "       Falls of Ground	64	3	11	7	20	6	111
"       "       Falling down shafts, etc.	18	2	1	..	37	5	63
Other Accidents .. .. .	432	2	102	9	750	45	1,340
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion .. .. .	20	..	..	4	26	..	50
Other Accidents .. .. .	137	..	39	5	156	37	374
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc.(b) .. .. .	11	..	58	95	46	4	214
4. Quarries, Brick and Clay Pits, etc. .. .. .	..	9	..	17	49	..	75
<b>COAL MINES.</b>							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.) .. .. .	..	..	2	..	..	..	2
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.) .. .. .	9	..	1	..	2	..	12
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth .. .. .	18	3	51	..	61	1	134
Other Accidents .. .. .	30	5	112	..	265	3	415
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion .. .. .	3	..	..	..	..	..	3
Other Accidents .. .. .	5	..	18	..	36	..	59
Total .. .. .	752	26	399	138	1,454	102	2,871

(a) Complete reports not available. (b) Inclusive of accidents reported by Chief Inspectors of Factories in States other than New South Wales as having occurred in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works.

Fifty-eight fatal mining accidents occurred below ground in Australia during the year, as compared with 40 above ground. Fatal accidents in metalliferous mines in 1938 numbered 67, as against 16 in coalmines and 15 in quarries and brick and clay pits. The number of non-fatal mining accidents below ground was 2,096 and above ground 486. Seventy-five non-fatal accidents occurred in quarries and brick and clay pits.

## CHAPTER V.—ASSOCIATIONS.

## § 1. Labour Organizations.

1. **General.**—In Labour Report No. 2 an outline was given of the method adopted to ascertain the number of members of labour organizations in Australia, and tabulated results up to the end of 1912 were included. From the beginning of 1913 quarterly returns were obtained from a considerable number of trade unions, both as to membership and unemployment, and these were supplemented at the end of each year by special inquiries as to the membership of those unions which, owing to the nature of the callings and industries covered, were unable to furnish quarterly unemployment returns. The following pages show the general situation in regard to the trades union movement in Australia at present, and its development since the year 1934. The affairs of single unions are not disclosed in the published results and this has assisted in securing complete information. The Bureau is greatly indebted to the secretaries of Trade Unions for their cordial co-operation in regard to the supply of information.

The figures published in this chapter cover the years 1934 to 1938. Particulars for the years 1912 to 1933 will be found in preceding issues of the Labour Report.

## 2. Trade Unions and Branches—Number and Membership, 1934 to 1938.

—The following table gives particulars of the number of separate unions and branches with the number of members at the end of the years 1934 to 1938 :—

### Trade Unions : Branches and Membership.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N'thern T'tory.	A.C.T.	Total.	Aust.
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#### NUMBER OF SEPARATE UNIONS.

1934..	185	149	106	109	128	79	4	15	775	a355
1935..	182	147	109	112	130	77	4	15	776	a354
1936..	184	147	111	114	132	76	5	15	784	a356
1937..	184	147	110	113	132	76	6	15	783	a358
1938..	194	147	111	114	136	78	6	15	801	a366

#### NUMBER OF BRANCHES.

1934..	579	406	323	183	185	77	..	1	1,757	b2,177
1935..	584	399	321	183	190	77	..	1	1,755	b2,177
1936..	559	396	314	177	211	71	..	1	1,729	b2,157
1937..	571	396	309	171	198	70	..	1	1,716	b2,141
1938..	573	400	314	179	183	58	..	1	1,708	b2,143

#### NUMBER OF MEMBERS.

1934..	312,639	195,877	129,358	55,120	54,195	13,510	825	1,043	762,567	762,567
1935..	309,689	199,132	148,127	59,102	58,315	14,556	851	1,058	790,830	790,830
1936..	315,517	201,616	158,953	59,900	60,762	15,839	992	1,230	814,809	814,809
1937..	333,879	209,794	162,212	63,770	65,053	19,208	912	1,455	856,283	856,283
1938..	346,837	215,021	169,569	67,404	67,932	21,051	806	1,538	885,158	885,158

#### PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP.(d)

1934..	3.5	0.7	6.6	1.7	5.4	co.9	16.9	2.1	3.1	3.1
1935..	co.9	1.7	14.5	6.9	7.6	7.8	3.2	1.5	3.7	3.7
1936..	1.9	1.2	7.3	1.4	4.2	8.8	16.6	16.3	3.0	3.0
1937..	5.5	4.0	2.0	6.1	6.6	17.5	c8.8	15.4	4.8	4.8
1938..	3.7	2.4	4.3	c2.1	4.2	8.8	c11.6	5.7	3.3	3.3

(a) Allowing for interstate duplication. The figures represent the number of distinct organizations and interstate groups of organizations. They do not represent the total number of organizations which are practically independent and self-governing (see following remarks). (b) Includes not only branches of separate State unions and sub-branches in each State of interstate unions, but also head State branches of interstate unions. (c) Decrease. (d) On preceding year.

The types of trade unions in Australia vary greatly, and range from the small independent association to the large interstate organization, which, in its turn, may be a branch of an international union. Broadly speaking, there are four distinct classes of labour organizations, viz. :— (i) the local independent ; (ii) the State ; (iii) the interstate ; and (iv) the Australasian or international.

In the table just given, under the heading " Number of Separate Unions," each union represented in a State is counted once only, regardless of the number of branches in that State. In the total number of separate unions in each State (see last column but one), it is obvious that there will be duplication in the case of interstate and similar unions, since each such union is counted once in each State in which it is represented by a Branch. The figures in the last column, therefore, have been obtained by making due allowance for this duplication.

3. **Trade Unions—Industrial Groups, 1934 to 1938.**—The following table gives the number and membership of trade unions in Australia in industrial groups at the end of the years 1934 to 1938. In previous Reports it was pointed out that the number of unions classified in Group XIV. (Miscellaneous), increased considerably during the period 1918 to 1920, and a correspondingly large increase occurred in the membership of the group. During recent years many associations of employees of public and semi-public bodies have been organized, and such unions are now included in the tabulations. Public Service, municipal, banking and insurance associations, which were not previously recognized, are now registered under the provision of the Commonwealth and State Industrial Arbitration Acts, and are therefore classified as industrial bodies. The inclusion of these organizations is responsible, to a great extent, for the increase in Group XIV.

**Trade Unions: Industrial Groups, Australia.**

Industrial Groups.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
NUMBER OF UNIONS.					
Manufacturing—	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. . .	17 (4)	17 (4)	17 (4)	17 (4)	17 (4)
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . .	63 (22)	61 (21)	63 (21)	63 (22)	63 (22)
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . .	62 (32)	63 (32)	69 (33)	70 (35)	70 (34)
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . .	24 (11)	24 (11)	24 (11)	24 (11)	26 (12)
V. Books, Printing, etc. . .	15 (9)	15 (9)	14 (8)	14 (7)	14 (8)
VI. Other Manufacturing . . .	76 (36)	73 (34)	73 (35)	73 (36)	73 (36)
VII. Building . . .	51 (28)	49 (26)	49 (27)	49 (27)	49 (28)
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. . .	17 (14)	16 (13)	16 (13)	15 (12)	15 (12)
IX. Railway and Tramway Services . .	51 (29)	52 (30)	50 (29)	50 (28)	50 (27)
X. Other Land Transport . . .	10 (4)	10 (4)	11 (4)	12 (5)	13 (6)
XI. Shipping, etc. . .	55 (22)	55 (22)	55 (21)	55 (21)	55 (20)
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. . .	10 (6)	10 (7)	11 (7)	9 (8)	9 (6)
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. . .	20 (15)	19 (14)	20 (15)	20 (15)	20 (16)
XIV. Miscellaneous—					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical . .	30 (19)	32 (19)	32 (19)	32 (16)	32 (16)
(ii) Public Service . . .	145 (45)	148 (47)	148 (48)	148 (47)	148 (50)
(iii) Retail and Wholesale . . .	8 (7)	8 (8)	8 (8)	8 (8)	8 (8)
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage, and Labouring . . .	13 (11)	16 (11)	16 (11)	16 (11)	16 (12)
(v) Other Miscellaneous . . .	108 (41)	108 (42)	108 (42)	108 (45)	123 (49)
Total . . .	775(355)a	776(354)a	784(356)a	783(358)a	801(366)a

(a) Allowing for interstate duplication.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS.					
Manufacturing—					
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. . .	25,886	27,079	25,365	27,465	27,831
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . .	73,363	76,070	79,047	83,993	94,228
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . .	65,663	68,292	72,120	76,702	75,753
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . .	56,484	59,484	62,269	66,323	66,427
V. Books, Printing, etc. . .	18,285	18,808	19,425	20,461	21,661
VI. Other Manufacturing . . .	43,720	44,388	46,832	49,323	48,410
VII. Building . . .	53,140	51,034	56,727	59,484	47,953
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. . .	36,560	36,636	40,184	44,912	43,429
IX. Railway and Tramway Services . .	91,035	97,443	94,944	97,435	104,523
X. Other Land Transport . . .	13,566	10,539	10,287	15,829	18,969
XI. Shipping, etc. . .	29,363	26,388	27,346	27,611	28,780
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. . .	22,599	28,782	31,869	34,624	38,424
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. . .	19,585	19,043	16,091	15,933	12,835
XIV. Miscellaneous—					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical . .	33,947	34,415	35,315	36,044	37,639
(ii) Public Service . . .	77,365	82,766	83,484	84,716	86,797
(iii) Retail and Wholesale . . .	29,009	32,619	32,178	33,055	34,140
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage and Labouring . . .	32,482	38,926	39,603	40,948	45,126
(v) Other Miscellaneous . . .	40,515	38,118	41,723	41,425	52,233
Total . . .	762,567	790,830	814,809	856,283	885,158

4. **Trade Unions—Number of Male and Female Members and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners.**—(i) *States, 1938.* The estimated numbers of male and female wage and salary earners (including unemployed) aged 20 years and over have been obtained by increasing the numbers of such persons enumerated at the 1933 Census in ratio to the

annual increases in males and females aged 20 to 64 years. Similarly, for wage and salary earners (including unemployed) under 20 years the numbers of such persons at the 1933 Census have been increased in ratio to the annual increases in males and females 15 to 19 years. Further, allowance has been made for (a) increase in the proportion of females who are wage and salary earners, and (b) youths who were without occupation but were not recorded in the wage-earning group at the 1933 Census.

The following table shows separately for males and females and for each State (a) the number of members of trade unions; (b) the estimated number of wage and salary earners of each sex 20 years of age and over in all professions, trades, and occupations; and (c) the percentage of the former (a) on the latter (b) at the end of the year 1938. The estimated number of wage and salary earners includes all persons 20 years of age and over in receipt of wages or salary, as well as those unemployed, and therefore embraces a large number of adults who are not eligible for membership of any trade union (such as certain persons employed in professional occupations) as well as others who, while eligible for membership so far as the nature of their trade or occupation is concerned do not reside in a locality which is covered by any union devoted to their particular trade or occupation. Moreover, the age at which persons are eligible for membership varies in different unions. The census results are classified in quinquennial age groups, and age 20 years is taken as approximating to the age of admission to membership. A line has been added to show the estimated numbers of "junior" workers under 20 years of age:—

**Trade Unions: Number of Male and Female Members, and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners, States, 1938.**

Particulars.	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Nthn. T'ory.	Aus- tralia.
<b>MALES.</b>								
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) ..	607,763	395,933	215,041	124,626	102,845	45,334	2,105	1,493,647
No. of Members of Unions ..	298,254	176,221	142,199	55,657	57,825	17,845	748	748,749
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	49.1	44.5	66.1	44.7	56.2	39.4	35.6	50.1
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20) ..	89,205	62,004	35,913	20,683	15,160	8,424	147	231,536
<b>FEMALES.</b>								
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) ..	157,809	135,311	51,622	34,847	24,013	12,003	184	415,789
No. of Members of Unions ..	50,121	38,800	27,370	6,747	10,107	3,206	58	136,409
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	31.8	28.7	53.0	19.4	42.1	26.7	31.5	32.8
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20) ..	54,496	46,968	19,360	11,502	8,918	4,348	82	145,674
<b>PERSONS.</b>								
Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over) ..	765,572	531,244	266,663	159,473	126,858	57,337	2,289	1,909,436
No. of Members of Unions ..	348,375	215,021	169,569	62,404	67,932	21,051	806	885,158
Percentage of Members on Estimated No. of Adult Wage and Salary Earners ..	45.5	40.5	63.6	39.1	53.5	36.7	35.2	46.4
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20) ..	143,701	108,972	55,273	32,185	24,078	12,772	229	377,210

(a) Inclusive of Australian Capital Territory.

(ii) *Australia*.—Similar particulars for Australia for the five years 1934 to 1938 are given in the next table. The figures for years prior to 1938 previously published in the Labour Report have been revised.

**Trade Unions: Number of Male and Female Members and Percentage to Total Wage and Salary Earners, Australia, 1934 to 1938.**

Particulars.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
<b>MALES.</b>					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)	1,413,002	1,432,905	1,453,456	1,473,323	1,493,647
Number of Members of Unions	641,370	662,447	685,795	720,587	748,749
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	45.4	46.2	47.2	48.9	50.1
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	224,615	223,613	225,197	227,776	231,536
<b>FEMALES.</b>					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)	378,149	386,897	395,083	404,340	415,789
Number of Members of Unions	121,197	128,383	129,014	135,696	136,409
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	32.1	33.2	32.7	33.6	32.8
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	142,673	141,488	142,341	144,107	145,674
<b>PERSONS.</b>					
Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners (20 years of age and over)	1,791,151	1,819,802	1,848,539	1,877,663	1,909,436
Number of Members of Unions	762,567	790,830	814,809	856,283	885,158
Percentage of Members on Estimated Number of Adult Wage and Salary Earners	42.6	43.5	44.1	45.6	46.4
Junior Wage and Salary Earners (under 20)	367,288	365,101	367,538	371,883	377,210

**5. Trade Unions—Classification according to Number of Members, 1934 to 1938.**—The following table shows the number and membership of all trade unions in Australia for the years 1934 to 1938 inclusive, classified according to size. In this table interstate unions are counted once only:—

**Trade Unions: Classification according to Number of Members, Australia.**

Classification.	10,000 and over.	5,000 and under 10,000.	2,000 and under 5,000.	1,000 and under 2,000.	500 and under 1,000.	300 and under 500.	200 and under 300.	100 and under 200.	50 and under 100.	Under 50.	Total.
<b>NUMBER OF UNIONS.</b>											
1934 ..	25	10	41	37	45	32	24	47	35	59	355
1935 ..	23	12	43	39	50	25	25	44	40	53	354
1936 ..	26	11	41	40	51	27	29	42	38	51	356
1937 ..	27	10	45	40	48	29	29	39	38	53	358
1938 ..	27	10	45	43	45	31	29	44	39	53	366
<b>MEMBERSHIP.</b>											
1934 ..	441,675	71,012	136,263	51,954	32,841	12,330	5,651	6,468	2,828	1,545	762,567
1935 ..	443,398	95,417	136,405	53,710	35,581	9,605	5,961	6,116	3,031	1,516	790,830
1936 ..	490,617	71,449	131,248	56,805	36,645	10,957	6,942	5,890	2,737	1,519	814,809
1937 ..	526,817	70,456	140,285	56,603	34,209	11,345	6,911	5,354	2,684	1,619	856,283
1938 ..	543,442	68,881	149,337	60,978	32,258	12,953	6,722	6,375	2,626	1,586	885,158
<b>PERCENTAGE ON TOTAL MEMBERSHIP.</b>											
1934 ..	57.9	9.3	17.9	6.8	4.4	1.6	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.2	100.0
1935 ..	56.1	12.1	17.1	6.8	4.5	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.2	100.0
1936 ..	60.2	8.8	16.1	7.0	4.5	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.2	100.0
1937 ..	61.6	8.2	16.4	6.6	4.0	1.3	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.2	100.0
1938 ..	61.4	7.7	16.9	6.9	3.6	1.5	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.2	100.0



In the last part of the preceding table the percentage which the membership in each group bears to the total membership of all groups is given for the years 1934 to 1938. The tendency towards closer organization is evidenced by the fact that though membership of trade unions has increased since 1912 by 98 per cent., the number of unions having less than 2,000 members has considerably decreased, viz., from 360 to 284.

**6. Interstate or Federated Trade Unions.**—The following table gives particulars regarding number and membership of interstate or federated trade unions having branches in two or more States. The figures include interstate unions registered under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, as well as federated unions which are not so registered :—

**Interstate or Federated Trade Unions : Number and Membership.**

PARTICULARS.		UNIONS OPERATING IN—					TOTAL.
		2 States.	3 States.	4 States.	5 States.	6 States.(a)	
Number of Unions	1934 ..	20	14	16	22	42	114
	1935 ..	20	10	19	23	40	112
	1936 ..	19	8	21	19	46	113
	1937 ..	18	12	18	19	46	113
	1938 ..	16	12	19	23	43	113
Number of Members	1934 ..	32,521	40,978	99,762	191,157	280,283	644,701
	1935 ..	31,891	23,923	119,976	200,196	273,934	649,920
	1936 ..	28,233	13,624	123,008	171,517	324,919	661,301
	1937 ..	29,863	17,802	131,468	172,799	366,172	718,104
	1938 ..	27,713	20,279	140,214	190,700	352,105	731,311

(a) Certain unions in this group have, in addition to branches in each of the six States, branches in the Northern Territory and in the Australian Capital Territory.

The number of organizations operating in two or more States has increased from 72 in 1912 to 113 in 1938, and the percentage of the membership of such organizations on the total membership of all organizations has risen from 65 per cent. to 84 per cent. during the same period.

**7. Central Labour Organizations.**—In each of the capital cities, as well as in a number of other industrial centres, delegate organizations, consisting of representatives from a group of trade unions, have been established. Their revenue is raised by means of a *per capita* tax on the members of each affiliated union. In the majority of the towns where such central organizations exist, most of the local unions are affiliated with the central organization, which is usually known as the Labour or Trades Hall Council, or the Labour Federation. In Western Australia a unified system of organization extends over the industrial centres throughout the State, and there is a provincial branch of the Australian Labour Party, having a central council and executive, and metropolitan and branch district councils to which the local bodies are affiliated. The central council, on which all district councils are represented, meets periodically. In the other States, however, the organization is not so close, and though provision usually exists in the rules of the central council in the capital city of each State for the organization of district councils, or for the representation on the central council of the local councils in the smaller industrial centres of the State, the councils in each State are, as a matter of fact, independent bodies. The table hereunder gives the number of metropolitan and district or local labour councils, together with the number of unions and branches of unions affiliated therewith in each State at the end of the years 1934 to 1938.

## Central Labour Organizations : Number, and Branch Unions Affiliated.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N. Ter.	A.C.T.	Total.	
No. of Councils	1934 ..	3	5	6	2	9	3	..	I	29
	1935 ..	3	5	6	2	8	3	..	I	28
	1936 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	I	27
	1937 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	I	27
	1938 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	I	27
No. of Unions and Branch Unions Affiliated	1934 ..	94	168	77	54	214	59	..	II	677*
	1935 ..	92	167	84	54	212	59	..	II	679
	1936 ..	91	167	84	54	213	59	..	II	679
	1937 ..	91	167	85	53	213	59	..	10	678
	1938 ..	100	176	78	47	210	59	..	9	679

The figures regarding number of unions do not necessarily represent separate unions, since the branches of a large union may be affiliated with the local trades councils in the several towns in which they are represented.

Between the trade union and the central organization of unions may be classed certain State or district councils organized on trade lines and composed of delegates from separate unions, the interests of the members of which are closely connected by reason of the occupations of their members such, for example, as delegate councils of bakers, bread carters and mill employees, or of unions connected directly or indirectly with the metal trades, or with the building trades.

A Central Labour Organization, called the Australasian Council of Trade Unions, came into being during 1927. The Council was created to function on behalf of the Trade Unions of the Commonwealth, and was founded at an All-Australian Trade Union Congress, held in Melbourne in May, 1927. The Australasian Council is based on the Metropolitan Trades and Labour Councils in each State, such bodies having the right to appoint two representatives to act on the Executive of the Council. In addition to the representatives from the Metropolitan Councils, the Executive consists of four officers, viz., the President, two Vice-Presidents, and a Secretary, who are elected by and from the All-Australian Trade Union Congress.

The objective of the Council is the socialization of industry, i.e., production, distribution and exchange. The methods to be adopted are:— (a) The closer organization of the workers by the transformation of the Australian Trade Union Movement from the Craft to an Industrial basis by the establishment of one Union in each industry; (b) the consolidation of the Australasian Labour Movement with the object of unified control, administration, and action; (c) the centralized control of industrial disputes; and (d) educational propaganda among Unions.

The A.C.T.U. is the first interstate body in Australia with authority to deal with industrial matters of an interstate character affecting the Trade Union movement generally. It is also the body responsible for submitting the names of suitable persons, from which the Commonwealth Government selects the Australian Workers' delegate to the Annual International Labour Conference at Geneva.

**3. Organizations Registered under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act.**—Under Part V. of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act any employer or association of employers in any industry who has employed not less than 100 employees during six months preceding application for registration, and any association of not less than 100 employees in any industry may be registered.\* Registered unions include both interstate associations and associations operating within one State only.

\* Under the Arbitration (Public Service) Act an association of less than 100 employees may be registered as an organization, provided that its members comprise at least three-fifths of all persons engaged in that industry in the Service.

At the end of the year 1938 the number of employers' organizations registered under the provisions of the Act was 32, with a membership of approximately 33,000. At the same date the number of unions registered was 143, with a membership of approximately 723,000, representing 82 per cent. of the total membership of all trade unions in Australia.

## § 2. Employers' Associations.

1. **General.**—Associations for trade purposes merely are not included in the present chapter, which deals with those associations only whose members are united for their own protection, and for representation in cases before Arbitration Courts, Wages Boards and other wage-fixing tribunals. Associations of employers and employees are recognized under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act as well as under several State Acts, and such organizations may be registered.

2. **Employers' Associations in each State.**—The following table gives particulars of the number and membership of employers' associations in each State at the end of the years 1934 to 1938 :—

### Employers' Associations.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
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#### NUMBER OF ASSOCIATIONS.

1934	..	..	a134	157	74	60	54	26	505
1935	..	..	a131	156	72	60	56	25	500
1936	..	..	a134	150	73	61	58	30	506
1937	..	..	b134	149	78	61	59	30	511
1938	..	..	b134	147	76	62	58	29	506

#### NUMBER OF BRANCHES.

1934	..	..	810	520	135	15	301	8	1,789
1935	..	..	786	559	135	13	302	8	1,803
1936	..	..	806	608	393	32	296	6	2,141
1937	..	..	681	548	394	33	184	10	1,850
1938	..	..	658	561	391	32	85	6	1,733

#### MEMBERSHIP.

1934	..	..	a58,387	38,276	18,943	6,765	10,464	2,095	134,930
1935	..	..	a59,444	37,765	18,556	7,536	10,791	2,087	136,179
1936	..	..	a60,135	50,262	35,764	8,813	11,193	2,257	168,424
1937	..	..	b63,747	50,566	33,150	9,081	10,978	2,152	169,674
1938	..	..	b66,573	53,745	32,407	9,671	11,312	1,982	175,690

(a) Includes 1 Association in A.C.T.

(b) Includes 2 Associations in A.C.T.

3. **Employers' Associations in Industrial Groups.**—The figures in the next table refer to Australia at the end of the years 1937 and 1938.

**Employers' Associations : Industrial Groups, Australia.**

Class.	Number of Associations.		Number of Branches.		Membership.	
	1937.	1938.	1937.	1938.	1937.	1938.
Manufacturing—						
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	20	20	16	16	1,222	1,239
II. Engineering, etc.	17	18	12	11	2,500	2,632
III. Food, Drink, etc.	103	106	92	140	20,501	24,169
IV. Clothing, Hats, etc.	16	15	11	9	1,932	1,541
V. Books, Printing, etc.	41	39	..	..	3,210	2,625
VI. Other Manufacturing..	42	39	2	2	3,567	3,624
VII. Building	24	26	9	10	2,010	2,176
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	11	11	1	..	282	288
X. Other Land Transport	19	18	9	10	3,387	3,271
XI. Shipping, etc.	18	18	3	3	263	265
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	52	51	1,648	1,512	109,363	110,435
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	18	20	..	..	1,765	2,192
XIV. Miscellaneous	130	125	47	30	19,669	21,233
Total .. ..	511	506	1,850	1,733	169,674	175,690

The female membership of these associations was 7,000 for 1937 and 6,200 for 1938.

The organization of employers is relatively strongest in the pastoral and agricultural industries and in the manufacture and distribution of articles of food and drink. In the former case there has been considerable growth in organization among small farmers, and in the latter the large membership is mainly due to the proprietors of shops purveying foodstuffs being members of grocers', butchers', and other similar associations.

4. **Employers' Associations in Membership Groups.**—The following table gives information in membership groups for Australia for the years 1934 to 1938:—

**Employers' Associations : Membership Groups, Australia.**

Membership Groups.	1,000 and over.	500 and under 1,000.	300 and under 500.	200 and under 300.	100 and under 200.	50 and under 100.	Under 50.	Total.
NUMBER OF ASSOCIATIONS.								
1934 .. ..	20	25	22	24	50	74	290	505
1935 .. ..	19	31	20	21	51	77	281	500
1936 .. ..	20	31	21	20	51	79	284	506
1937 .. ..	24	33	23	26	44	80	281	511
1938 .. ..	27	35	21	22	52	72	277	506
MEMBERSHIP.								
1934 .. ..	85,058	18,353	8,156	5,681	7,203	5,055	5,424	134,930
1935 .. ..	85,116	20,392	7,356	5,213	7,506	5,387	5,209	136,179
1936 .. ..	109,476	21,895	8,800	6,654	8,242	6,836	6,521	168,424
1937 .. ..	114,507	23,389	8,364	6,391	6,366	5,680	4,917	169,674
1938 .. ..	110,070	25,274	8,208	5,444	7,483	5,222	4,989	175,690
PERCENTAGE ON TOTAL MEMBERSHIP.								
1934 .. ..	63	13	7	4	5	4	4	100
1935 .. ..	63	15	5	4	5	4	4	100
1936 .. ..	65	13	5	4	5	4	4	100
1937 .. ..	67	14	5	4	4	3	3	100
1938 .. ..	68	14	5	3	4	3	3	100

5. **Federations of Employers' Associations.**—In addition to the associations in various industries, there are central associations in each State, to which many of these separate organizations are affiliated. Examples of this kind of association are provided in the Chamber of Manufactures, Chamber of Commerce, and Employers' Federation in each State. Further, these State Associations are, in some cases, organized on a Federal basis, e.g., there is an Associated Chamber of Manufactures, an Associated Chamber of Commerce, and a Central Employers' Association, to which State branches are affiliated.

The affiliation of these associations is, however, somewhat loose as compared with that of the Federated Trade Unions. Whereas in the latter case the central body has complete control of its State branches, in the case of the Employers' Associations the State body generally has complete independence, the central body acting in a more or less advisory capacity only.

The following table gives particulars for the years 1934 to 1938, so far as can be ascertained, of interstate or federated associations having branches in two or more States:—

Interstate or Federated Employers' Associations.

Year.	ASSOCIATIONS OPERATING IN—					Total.
	2 States.	3 States.	4 States.	5 States.	6 States.	

NUMBER OF ASSOCIATIONS.

1934	..	..	4	2	12	8	17	43
1935	..	..	4	2	10	6	20	42
1936	..	..	5	2	8	6	17	38
1937	..	..	3	3	10	10	17	43
1938	..	..	(a)6	(b)	7	14	17	44

MEMBERSHIP.

1934	..	..	2,438	56	44,745	22,947	34,026	104,212
1935	..	..	10,529	57	3,311	63,155	37,723	114,775
1936	..	..	11,315	904	1,013	22,324	104,896	140,452
1937	..	..	9,351	2,019	1,118	92,049	38,908	143,445
1938	..	..	(a)9,512	(b)	3,800	93,454	41,198	147,964

(a) Includes 1 Association operating in 3 States.

(b) See footnote (a).

Of the total membership of 175,690 of all employers' associations, 84 per cent. are organized on an interstate basis. The Pastoral, Agricultural, &c., section (Class XII.) is the most important in the federated sphere, their numbers covering no less than 63 per cent. of the total membership of federated organizations. The Food, Drink, &c., section (Class III.) and the Miscellaneous section (Class XIV.) are also well represented in the federations.

### § 3. International Comparisons.

1. **The International Labour Conferences.**—In Chapter XVII. of Labour Report No. 14, information was given with regard to the clauses in the Peace Treaty referring to labour conditions. Provision was made in the Treaty for the holding of International Labour Conferences, and the institution of the International Labour Office. The Report referred to also contains information regarding the activities of the Labour Office, together with a brief reference to the five Annual Labour Conferences which had then been held. Particulars of the proceedings at subsequent Conferences were given in later reports.

The twenty-fourth session of the International Labour Conference was held at Geneva from 2nd to 22nd June, 1938, and the Agenda and decisions are fully set out in Parliamentary Paper No. 152 of 1937-38-39, but are briefly as follows :—

- (i) Technical and vocational education and apprenticeship.
- (ii) Regulation of contracts of employment of indigenous workers.
- (iii) Recruiting, placing and conditions of labour (equality of treatment) of migrant workers.
- (iv) Regulation of hours of work and rest periods of professional drivers (and their assistants) of vehicles engaged in road transport.
- (v) Generalization of the reduction of hours of work.
- (vi) Statistics of hours and wages in the principal mining and manufacturing industries, including building and construction, and in agriculture.

The Conference reached a final decision on item (vi) only of the agenda, and a draft Convention (No. 63) was unanimously adopted.

In regard to the other items, Conference drew up lists of points on which Governments were to be consulted, and the subjects would be resubmitted for final discussion at the 1939 Conference.

The Australian delegation comprised the following :—Government Delegate—Major O. C. W. Furrman, O.B.E. ; Employers' Delegate—A. S. Huybers, Esq. ; Workers' Delegate—E. C. Culley, Esq.

2. **Unemployment.**—In the following table, the percentage of unemployment in various countries is shown for each month of the year 1938. The figures are obtained chiefly from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*, published by the League of Nations, Geneva :—

Unemployment in various Countries during 1938

Country.	Percentage Unemployed in Month of—												Average for Year.
	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Australia ..	..	8.0	..	..	8.6	..	..	9.2	..	..	8.9	..	8.7
Belgium ..	16.0	15.3	14.2	13.1	13.1	12.3	12.1	12.5	13.0	14.0	15.5	15.5	13.9
Canada ..	12.4	13.7	12.8	13.1	13.2	13.5	14.0	11.6	10.4	12.3	13.7	16.2	13.1
Denmark ..	29.2	27.7	22.1	20.3	17.5	16.7	16.9	16.9	16.8	18.8	22.7	31.6	21.4
Great Britain ..	10.7	10.7	10.4	10.2	10.0	9.9	9.8	9.7	10.1	10.5	10.8	10.8	10.3
Holland ..	34.5	31.0	29.2	27.0	26.0	24.9	24.6	23.9	23.8	26.6	25.3	30.8	27.3
Sweden ..	15.8	14.7	13.9	11.9	9.3	9.5	8.1	8.2	8.4	10.0	12.4	19.1	11.8
Switzerland ..	4.0	4.4	4.8	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.1	4.2	4.8	4.5
United States ..	16.2	16.6	17.2	16.7	16.4	16.3	15.7	14.6	14.0	13.4	13.2	13.0	15.3

3. **Retail Prices of Food—Various Countries.**—The following table shows the average retail prices of the chief items of food in the principal cities of the countries specified. The prices have been extracted from official publications and reports:—

**Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities: Australia and Other Countries, 1938.**

(Particulars extracted from Official Publications and Reports.)

Article.	Unit or Quan- tity.	AUSTRALIA.								NEW ZEALAND.							
		Sydney.				Melbourne.				Wellington.				Christchurch.			
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.65	5.48	5.30	5.25	5.00	4.90	4.63	4.60	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Flour, ordinary ..	2 lb.	4.20	4.00	3.80	3.70	3.90	3.45	3.25	3.00	4.10	4.02	4.00	4.20	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10
Tea ..	lb.	26.45	26.45	26.45	26.60	27.80	27.30	27.25	26.85	30.00	29.75	29.75	30.50	29.25	30.00	30.25	30.25
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	3.95	9.05	9.05	9.05	7.75	7.80	7.85	7.90	14.62	15.75	15.37	15.37	14.25	14.62	13.87	14.25
Sugar ..	lb.	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.75	4.00	3.50	3.50	3.50
Rice ..	"	3.05	3.10	3.05	3.05	3.13	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.00	3.00	2.75	2.75	3.00	3.00	2.75	3.00
Oatmeal ..	"	3.11	3.22	3.42	3.19	3.28	3.30	3.58	3.48	3.70	3.25	3.30	3.00	3.15	2.60	2.50	2.50
Raisins ..	"	9.48	9.83	10.02	10.27	9.65	9.85	10.10	10.10	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.25
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	8.29	11.29	14.93	13.93	6.56	7.02	12.72	14.59	9.63	8.00	7.50	6.50	6.25	6.00	6.00	4.38
Onions ..	lb.	2.08	2.04	2.29	2.50	1.17	1.39	1.75	1.89	2.75	2.75	3.00	3.00	2.00	2.00	3.00	4.00
Milk ..	quart	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	6.40	6.80	6.00	6.95	6.50	7.00	7.00	6.50	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Butter ..	lb.	18.05	18.05	19.05	19.05	18.50	18.50	19.50	19.50	16.25	16.25	16.25	16.25	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00
Cheese ..	"	13.30	13.40	13.75	14.05	12.67	12.83	13.50	13.44	9.75	9.75	10.00	11.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.25
Eggs ..	dozen	21.30	26.90	19.15	16.80	21.35	27.95	19.35	16.90	23.25	36.00	23.00	19.75	19.50	31.00	19.75	14.75
Bacon ..	lb.	16.25	15.95	16.25	17.05	19.75	19.50	18.80	19.10	17.75	17.75	18.25	18.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00
Beef, sirloin ..	"	10.00	9.95	11.15	10.75	9.55	10.30	11.30	10.80	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	8.50	8.50	9.00	9.25
" rib ..	"	7.80	7.65	8.55	8.15	7.85	8.55	9.50	8.95	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	8.00	7.75	8.00
" steak, rump ..	"	14.10	13.80	15.30	15.20	14.10	15.10	16.10	15.80	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	11.50	11.50	11.50	12.50
Mutton, leg ..	"	7.35	7.30	8.40	7.65	7.20	7.75	8.85	7.40	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.00	8.50	8.25	8.00	8.50
" chops ..	"	9.15	8.95	10.50	9.40	8.10	8.55	9.05	8.40	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.50	7.50	7.25	7.50	8.00



Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities: Australia and Other Countries, 1938—continued.

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	UNITED KINGDOM.(c)				UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.							
						Capetown.				Johannesburg.			
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
Bread ..	2 lb.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Flour, ordinary ..	2 lb.	4.75	4.75	4.50	4.25	7.47	7.44	7.44	7.39	6.87	6.95	6.87	6.90
Tea ..	lb.	4.00	4.50	4.36	4.07	6.44	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.06	6.02	6.00	5.98
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	26.50	26.75	28.25	28.25	25.57	25.57	25.36	25.36	25.62	25.65	25.65	25.65
Sugar ..	lb.	..	..	..	..	7.77	7.77	7.77	7.82	8.68	8.68	8.56	8.51
Rice ..	..	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	3.33	3.33	3.32	3.33	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Oatmeal ..	..	..	..	..	..	2.07	2.07	2.04	2.04	3.27	3.24	3.25	3.25
Raisins ..	..	..	..	..	..	3.40	3.52	3.57	3.57	3.19	3.32	3.39	3.45
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	..	..	..	..	8.64	8.64	8.64	8.64	8.53	8.52	8.57	8.52
Onions ..	lb.	6.25	6.25	7.50	5.50	10.36	10.92	10.78	10.78	9.66	8.40	8.61	9.52
Milk ..	quart	..	..	..	..	2.04	2.35	2.26	2.40	2.29	2.18	2.22	1.98
Butter ..	lb.	7.00	6.75	6.75	7.00	6.00	6.12	6.12	6.12	6.30	6.70	6.70	6.16
Cheese ..	..	16.75	16.75	16.75	16.75	19.79	19.57	19.50	19.36	19.38	19.29	19.26	19.19
Eggs ..	dozen	11.00	10.75	10.75	10.75	17.93	17.11	16.68	16.60	17.40	16.60	16.40	16.47
Bacon ..	..	24.00	18.00	21.00	30.00	23.00	20.36	18.43	16.07	24.33	33.00	17.93	16.45
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	..	..	..	..	19.75	20.42	20.41	20.33	18.20	20.25	19.08	18.92
.. rib ..	..	..	..	..	..	9.23	9.23	9.23	9.23	10.44	10.04	10.10	10.10
.. steak, rump ..	..	{ (a) 14.50	14.50	14.50	14.25	6.81	6.81	6.81	6.81	6.94	6.75	6.77	6.70
..	..	{ (b) 9.75	9.75	9.50	9.50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mutton, leg ..	..	{ (a) 16.25	16.00	15.50	15.25	11.62	11.62	11.62	11.62	13.40	12.65	12.56	12.50
..	..	{ (b) 10.50	10.50	10.25	10.50	10.23	10.23	10.23	10.23	11.86	11.12	11.19	11.15

(a) British.

(b) Chilled or frozen.

(c) Average for all towns.

Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities: Australia and Other Countries, 1938—continued.

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	CANADA.								UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. <sup>(a)</sup>			
		Ottawa.				Montreal.				Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.				
		cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.
Bread .. ..	2 lb.	14.6	14.6	14.6	13.4	13.3	13.3	13.3	11.8	17.8	17.6	17.4	16.4
Flour, ordinary ..	2 lb.	10.0	9.8	9.6	7.2	9.2	9.0	8.6	7.8	8.6	8.0	7.8	7.4
Tea .. ..	lb.	61.7	64.7	60.9	61.2	58.9	61.0	63.0	64.9	70.4	70.8	71.2	71.2
Jam, plum .. ..	1½ lb.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sugar .. ..	lb.	6.1	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.3	5.2	5.2
Rice .. ..	"	8.5	8.2	9.2	8.3	7.6	7.8	7.2	7.4	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.6
Oatmeal .. ..	"	5.9	5.8	5.5	5.3	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.2	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.2
Raisins .. ..	"	16.4	16.4	16.6	16.4	16.4	16.4	16.8	16.6	10.1	9.9	9.9	9.5
Potatoes .. ..	7 lb.	9.8	9.2	10.9	10.7	9.3	8.0	9.2	11.0	14.0	16.1	13.3	13.3
Onions .. ..	lb.	7.4	7.2	6.8	4.6	7.5	6.7	5.8	4.1	5.1	4.4	3.6	3.7
Milk .. ..	quart	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5	12.7	12.3	12.3	12.0
Butter .. ..	lb.	35.7	31.8	28.9	26.2	35.6	31.6	29.1	26.9	37.7	32.8	32.8	33.2
Cheese .. ..	"	21.9	22.7	22.3	23.2	22.0	22.3	22.1	21.8	28.4	25.9	25.8	25.2
Eggs .. ..	dozen	32.4	26.9	37.0	48.6	34.7	30.2	37.7	49.6	30.3	34.6	36.9	44.5
Bacon .. ..	lb.	28.8	31.3	34.8	30.9	27.4	30.0	33.4	28.8	37.7	37.1	37.4	35.9
		32.1	34.0	37.8	34.0	30.3	32.7	36.7	32.1	..	..	..	..
Beef, sirloin .. ..	"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" rib .. ..	"	22.1	24.1	26.1	21.6	23.6	23.9	22.8	20.5	27.5	30.9	30.6	29.7
" steak, rump .. ..	"	27.2	29.0	30.9	26.5	25.7	28.6	29.0	25.6	33.9	40.8	40.7	38.4
Mutton, leg .. ..	"	24.3	25.6	26.7	22.6	24.5	25.8	25.4	21.9	..	..	..	..

(a) Average for all towns.

# APPENDIX

## Section I.

Sydney : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1938.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1938.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.65	5.65	5.65	5.65	5.48	5.48	5.33	5.30	5.25	5.28	5.25	6.05	5.50
Flour, ordinary ..	"	4.35	4.30	4.25	4.10	4.00	4.00	3.80	3.80	3.65	3.70	3.70	5.05	4.06
" self-raising ..	"	6.60	6.60	6.55	6.50	6.50	6.35	6.30	6.30	6.30	6.25	6.25	7.60	6.51
Tea ..	lb.	26.45	26.45	26.45	26.45	26.45	26.45	26.45	26.45	26.45	26.45	26.45	26.60	26.48
Sugar ..	"	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) ..	"	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.06
Sago ..	"	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.10	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.13	3.10	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.08
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	8.80	8.95	9.00	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.05	9.02
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	6.65	6.65	6.65	6.65	6.65	6.65	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.68
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.11	3.11	3.14	3.14	3.22	3.22	3.33	3.42	3.39	3.19	3.19	3.33	3.23
Raisins, seeded ..	"	9.48	9.48	9.78	9.83	9.83	9.83	10.22	10.22	10.25	10.22	10.27	10.47	9.97
Currants ..	"	8.28	8.28	8.33	8.33	8.33	8.33	8.33	8.33	8.39	8.44	8.56	8.61	8.38
Apricots, dried ..	"	14.50	14.44	14.28	13.94	13.94	13.83	13.72	13.72	13.72	13.61	13.61	13.89	13.93
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	9.60	9.65	9.70	9.75	9.90	9.90	9.80	9.90	9.80	9.75	9.75	9.70	9.77
Pears, canned ..	"	10.45	10.40	10.50	10.50	10.60	10.60	10.70	10.70	10.55	10.55	10.60	10.55	10.56
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	12.28	12.28	12.28	12.28	12.17	12.28	12.28	12.44	12.33	12.39	12.44	12.78	12.35
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	7.42	8.29	7.86	9.36	11.20	10.93	12.43	14.93	14.07	15.76	13.93	13.57	11.66
Onions, brown ..	lb.	2.00	2.08	1.93	1.96	2.04	2.00	2.07	2.29	2.36	2.50	2.50	2.64	2.20
Soap ..	"	6.32	6.32	6.32	6.32	6.35	6.35	6.35	6.35	6.35	6.35	6.35	6.35	6.34
Kerosene ..	quart	4.81	4.81	4.81	4.81	4.81	4.81	4.81	4.81	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.83
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	18.05	18.05	18.05	18.05	18.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	18.63
Cheese, mild ..	"	13.30	13.30	13.40	13.40	13.40	13.80	13.80	13.75	13.80	13.90	14.05	14.00	13.61
Eggs, new laid ..	1 doz.	20.25	21.30	23.95	26.90	26.90	26.90	20.95	19.15	16.65	15.85	16.80	17.65	21.11
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	16.25	16.25	16.10	15.90	15.95	15.80	16.05	16.25	17.00	17.00	17.05	17.10	16.39
Milk, condensed ..	1 tin	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.55	8.75	8.75	8.90	9.00	8.95	9.00	9.00	8.67
" fresh ..	1 quart	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	10.10	10.00	9.95	9.90	9.95	10.15	11.15	11.15	11.10	10.70	10.75	10.35	10.44
" rib ..	"	7.75	7.80	7.65	7.65	7.65	7.95	8.40	8.55	8.50	8.20	8.15	7.70	8.00
" steak, rump ..	"	14.20	14.10	13.90	13.90	13.80	14.60	14.90	15.30	15.20	15.20	15.20	15.10	14.62
" chuck ..	"	6.35	6.35	6.35	6.35	6.40	6.65	7.30	7.60	7.70	7.45	7.45	7.10	6.92
" sausages ..	"	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.45	5.65	6.05	6.20	6.20	6.20	6.05	5.95	5.81
Beef (corned) silver side	"	8.35	8.35	8.40	8.35	8.15	7.95	8.25	8.35	8.50	8.40	8.45	8.45	8.33
" brisket ..	"	6.10	6.20	6.20	6.20	6.10	6.10	6.45	6.60	6.50	6.78	6.50	6.35	6.36
Mutton, leg ..	"	7.35	7.35	7.25	7.30	7.30	7.70	8.40	8.40	8.30	7.85	7.65	7.55	7.70
" forequarter ..	"	4.65	4.70	4.58	4.70	4.55	4.95	5.65	5.63	5.40	4.80	4.55	4.35	4.88
" loin ..	"	8.30	8.35	8.25	8.30	8.15	8.95	9.70	9.45	9.25	8.75	8.65	8.20	8.69
" chops, loin ..	"	9.10	9.15	9.00	9.00	8.95	9.95	10.75	10.50	10.30	9.75	9.40	9.20	9.59
" leg ..	"	8.30	8.30	8.25	8.20	8.15	9.10	9.60	9.25	9.00	8.60	8.40	8.30	8.87
Pork, leg ..	"	12.85	12.90	12.90	12.75	12.65	13.10	13.70	13.70	13.90	13.70	13.90	14.20	13.35
" loin ..	"	13.10	13.10	13.05	12.90	12.80	13.10	14.20	13.95	14.60	14.20	14.00	14.10	13.59
" chops ..	"	13.00	13.05	13.15	12.60	12.80	13.00	14.30	14.10	14.25	14.25	14.10	14.00	13.55

## SECTION I.—continued.

Melbourne : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1938.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1938.
		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
<b>Groceries, &amp;c.—</b>														
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.03	5.00	5.00	4.85	4.90	4.73	4.65	4.63	4.63	4.60	4.60	5.58	4.85
Flour, ordinary ..	"	4.00	3.90	3.90	3.55	3.45	3.30	3.30	3.25	3.05	3.00	3.00	4.25	3.50
" self-raising ..	"	6.85	6.90	6.90	6.45	6.45	6.45	6.35	6.35	6.35	6.35	6.35	7.85	6.63
Tea ..	lb.	27.80	27.80	27.60	27.45	27.30	27.30	27.25	27.25	27.15	26.85	26.85	26.85	27.29
Sugar ..	"	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) ..	"	3.15	3.13	3.13	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.23	3.23	3.23	3.23	3.18
Sago ..	"	3.03	3.03	3.03	3.08	3.08	3.18	3.15	3.15	3.03	3.08	3.03	3.08	3.08
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	7.70	7.75	7.80	7.80	7.80	7.80	7.85	7.85	7.90	7.90	7.90	7.90	7.83
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.10	7.10	7.10	6.95	6.95	7.05	7.15	7.10	7.10	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.09
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.35	3.28	3.28	3.28	3.30	3.55	3.58	3.58	3.45	3.35	3.48	3.53	3.42
Raisins, seeded ..	"	9.65	9.65	9.67	9.70	9.85	9.85	10.05	10.10	10.05	10.05	10.10	10.10	9.90
Currants ..	"	8.50	8.45	8.50	8.55	8.45	8.45	8.45	8.60	8.60	8.60	8.60	8.60	8.53
Apricots, dried ..	"	15.17	15.11	15.06	14.83	14.55	14.55	14.45	14.65	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.77
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	8.90	8.90	8.90	8.90	9.05	9.10	9.20	9.20	9.35	9.30	9.40	9.35	9.13
Pears, canned ..	"	9.45	9.45	9.45	9.45	9.60	9.75	9.90	9.95	10.00	10.00	10.00	9.80	9.73
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	10.85	10.95	10.95	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	11.00	11.15	10.94
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	5.82	6.56	6.53	6.27	7.02	7.43	10.79	12.72	11.09	11.76	14.59	15.86	9.70
Onions, brown ..	lb.	1.28	1.17	1.28	1.28	1.39	1.39	1.61	1.75	1.83	1.89	1.89	2.06	1.57
Soap ..	"	6.99	6.99	6.99	6.99	6.99	6.99	7.03	7.03	7.03	7.03	7.03	7.03	7.01
Kerosene ..	quart	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.11	5.11	5.11	5.11	5.22
<b>Dairy Produce—</b>														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.08
Cheese, mild ..	"	12.67	12.67	12.67	12.67	12.83	13.28	13.44	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.44	13.44	13.14
Eggs, new laid ..	1 doz.	21.00	21.35	21.55	25.90	27.95	25.50	21.65	19.35	14.95	15.85	16.90	17.20	20.76
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	19.85	19.75	19.60	19.50	19.50	19.60	19.80	18.80	19.00	19.10	19.10	19.10	19.39
Milk, condensed ..	1 tin	8.70	8.65	8.60	8.55	8.60	8.65	8.70	8.75	8.90	8.95	9.10	9.00	8.76
" fresh ..	1 quart	6.40	6.40	6.40	6.40	6.80	6.95	6.90	6.90	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.95	6.75
<b>Meat—</b>														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	9.60	9.55	9.80	10.00	10.30	10.65	10.80	11.30	11.25	11.30	10.80	10.90	10.52
" rib ..	"	7.85	7.85	8.10	8.45	8.55	9.00	8.95	9.50	9.40	9.35	8.95	8.70	8.72
" steak, rump ..	"	14.50	14.10	14.30	14.50	15.10	15.10	15.40	16.10	16.00	15.80	15.80	15.80	15.21
" chuck ..	"	5.95	5.90	6.05	6.25	6.45	6.75	6.90	7.50	7.40	7.35	7.10	7.15	6.73
" sausages ..	"	5.44	5.44	5.44	5.61	5.61	5.77	5.67	6.17	6.11	5.89	5.50	5.50	5.68
Beef (corned) silver-side ..	"	7.80	7.80	7.90	8.15	8.40	8.50	8.55	8.95	9.10	9.30	9.00	8.95	8.53
" brisket ..	"	6.25	6.10	6.25	6.35	6.65	6.70	6.75	7.15	7.25	7.25	6.95	6.85	6.70
Mutton, leg ..	"	7.25	7.20	7.35	7.45	7.75	8.05	8.25	8.85	8.80	8.40	7.40	7.50	7.86
" forequarter ..	"	4.15	4.20	4.45	4.65	4.85	5.15	5.50	6.10	5.90	5.10	4.40	4.15	4.88
" loin ..	"	7.00	6.95	7.25	7.10	7.45	7.65	7.75	8.30	8.15	7.70	7.30	7.10	7.48
" chops, loin ..	"	8.30	8.10	8.20	8.20	8.55	8.75	8.85	9.05	9.15	8.85	8.40	8.40	8.57
" chops, leg ..	"	8.25	8.30	8.50	8.50	8.75	8.90	9.15	9.60	9.45	9.20	8.55	8.45	8.80
Pork, leg ..	"	11.00	10.80	11.00	11.25	11.55	11.80	11.95	12.30	12.20	12.20	12.20	12.50	11.73
" loin ..	"	11.35	11.00	11.40	11.60	11.80	12.35	12.45	12.55	12.70	12.70	12.30	12.20	12.04
" chops ..	"	11.20	11.90	12.00	12.00	12.40	12.70	12.80	13.05	13.10	13.10	12.80	12.80	12.49

## SECTION I.—continued.

Brisbane : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1938.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1938.
<b>Groceries, &amp;c.—</b>		<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.48	5.48	5.48	5.23	5.23	5.23	5.23	5.23	5.00	4.98	4.98	5.50	5.25
Flour, ordinary ..	"	3.89	3.89	3.80	3.55	3.55	3.50	3.50	3.41	3.23	3.18	3.18	3.95	3.55
" self-raising ..	"	8.14	8.09	7.95	7.82	7.82	7.68	7.68	7.59	7.23	7.14	7.18	8.23	7.71
Tea ..	lb.	27.23	27.23	27.23	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	27.05	26.95	27.05	24.59
Sugar ..	"	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98	3.98
Rice (Australian) ..	"	3.02	3.02	3.02	3.02	3.02	3.02	3.02	3.02	3.02	3.02	3.02	3.02	3.02
Sago ..	"	3.02	3.02	3.02	3.00	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.01
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	7.84	7.81	7.98	8.02	8.02	8.02	8.02	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.95	7.96
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.73	6.77	6.77	6.77
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.36	3.36	3.36	3.36	3.52	3.57	3.57	3.61	3.50	3.34	3.57	3.59	3.48
Raisins, seeded ..	"	10.09	10.09	10.23	10.27	10.27	10.27	10.32	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.59	10.64	10.36
Currants ..	"	9.09	9.14	9.14	9.23	9.27	9.27	9.32	9.36	9.36	9.45	9.36	9.55	9.30
Apricots, dried ..	"	15.68	15.55	15.55	15.55	15.45	15.32	15.18	15.23	15.23	15.55	15.55	15.55	15.45
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	10.18	10.27	10.32	10.45	10.55	10.73	10.73	10.77	10.77	10.77	10.77	10.41	10.56
Pears, canned ..	"	10.14	10.32	10.36	10.59	10.73	10.95	11.00	11.05	10.86	10.86	10.86	10.95	10.72
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	13.13	13.13	13.10	13.17	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.33	13.33	13.33	13.23
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	7.82	9.32	9.77	9.82	10.86	10.23	12.36	15.09	14.73	14.05	-9.23	10.73	11.17
Onions, brown ..	lb.	0.97	0.99	1.23	1.43	1.50	1.66	1.81	1.95	2.04	1.79	1.76	1.95	1.59
Soap ..	"	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.30	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.24	6.21	6.21	6.18	6.29
Kerosene ..	quart	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52
<b>Dairy Produce—</b>														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	18.05	18.05	18.05	18.05	18.05	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	18.61
Cheese, mild ..	"	12.82	12.82	12.91	12.91	12.91	13.27	13.27	13.32	13.32	13.27	13.27	13.27	13.11
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	19.64	21.00	23.14	26.41	26.82	26.55	19.91	17.27	15.55	15.55	15.55	16.82	20.35
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	15.32	15.36	15.14	14.82	14.73	14.68	14.91	15.09	15.36	15.27	14.91	14.73	15.03
Milk, condensed ..	tin	8.77	8.77	8.82	8.82	9.00	9.18	9.23	9.27	9.32	9.27	9.27	9.27	9.08
" fresh ..	quart	5.90	5.90	5.90	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.98
<b>Meat—</b>														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	8.55	8.45	8.35	8.35	8.45	8.65	8.70	8.85	8.85	8.85	8.85	8.80	8.64
" rib ..	"	5.70	5.75	5.60	5.60	5.55	5.65	5.75	5.90	5.95	5.85	5.80	5.70	5.73
" steak, rump ..	"	11.30	11.30	11.10	11.00	11.00	11.25	11.20	11.30	11.30	11.35	11.40	11.35	11.24
" chuck ..	"	5.80	5.80	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.80	5.85	5.75	5.75	5.70	5.75
" sausages ..	"	5.80	5.80	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.76
Beef, (corned) silver-side ..	"	7.30	7.25	7.30	7.30	7.35	7.45	7.40	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.41
" " brisket ..	"	5.65	5.65	5.55	5.55	5.50	5.55	5.45	5.50	5.50	5.45	5.45	5.45	5.52
Mutton, leg ..	"	8.20	8.10	7.95	7.65	7.75	7.85	7.90	8.00	8.00	7.80	7.85	7.85	7.90
" forequarter ..	"	5.70	5.65	5.65	5.35	5.40	5.45	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.45	5.40	5.40	5.51
" loin ..	"	7.95	7.95	7.80	7.55	7.65	7.75	7.80	7.85	7.85	7.75	7.75	7.65	7.77
" chops, loin ..	"	8.10	8.05	7.95	7.75	7.85	7.95	8.05	8.05	8.10	7.90	8.00	7.75	7.96
" " leg ..	"	8.20	8.20	8.10	7.95	8.00	8.10	8.10	8.20	8.20	8.00	8.10	7.95	8.10
Pork, leg ..	"	11.00	10.90	10.75	10.60	10.60	11.10	11.30	11.45	11.45	11.45	11.50	11.55	11.14
" loin ..	"	10.95	10.95	10.85	10.80	10.85	11.30	11.45	11.60	11.60	11.50	11.50	11.45	11.23
" chops ..	"	11.00	10.95	10.85	10.80	10.85	11.30	11.50	11.60	11.60	11.50	11.50	11.55	11.25

## SECTION I.—continued.

## Adelaide : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1938.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1938.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.95	4.95	4.95	4.95	4.95	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.90
Flour, ordinary ..	"	4.35	4.30	4.25	3.80	3.80	3.35	3.25	3.10	3.05	3.10	3.00	4.50	3.65
" self-raising ..	"	6.60	6.60	6.45	6.25	6.10	5.65	5.65	5.60	5.40	5.50	5.40	6.75	5.99
Tea ..	lb.	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.85	27.50	27.85	27.85	27.82
Sugar ..	"	3.95	3.95	3.95	3.95	3.95	3.94	3.94	3.94	3.94	3.94	3.94	3.94	3.95
Rice (Australian) ..	"	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.98	2.98	2.98	2.98	2.98	2.98	2.98	3.00	2.99	3.00
Sago ..	"	2.90	2.90	2.90	2.90	2.88	2.88	2.83	2.83	2.83	2.83	2.80	2.80	2.86
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	7.95	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Golden Syrup ..	2½ lb.	6.20	6.30	6.30	6.30	6.30	6.30	6.30	6.30	6.35	6.35	6.35	6.40	6.32
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.08	3.05	3.18	3.20	3.35	3.50	3.50	3.43	3.43	3.43	3.40	3.40	3.33
Raisins, seeded ..	"	7.75	7.70	7.85	7.85	8.20	8.45	8.50	8.50	8.60	8.50	8.55	8.55	8.25
Currants ..	"	7.65	7.65	7.75	7.85	7.80	7.85	7.85	7.90	8.00	7.95	7.95	8.05	7.85
Apricots, dried ..	"	14.28	14.35	14.25	14.25	14.10	14.00	14.05	14.05	14.05	14.05	14.05	14.05	14.13
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	9.70	9.70	9.70	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.74
Pears, canned ..	"	9.75	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.70	9.70	9.79
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	11.30	11.30	11.20	11.20	11.30	11.20	11.30	11.30	11.30	11.30	11.35	11.30	11.28
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	6.79	6.64	6.86	6.71	7.36	8.77	11.21	13.71	12.21	14.29	14.21	12.79	10.13
Onions, brown ..	lb.	1.61	1.61	1.46	1.46	1.46	1.32	1.71	1.71	1.68	1.68	1.71	1.57	1.58
Soap ..	"	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64
Kerosene ..	quart	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.56	4.56	4.56	4.56	4.63
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.05	18.65	18.65	18.55	18.55	18.55	19.50	19.50	18.93
Cheese, mild ..	"	11.90	11.75	11.75	11.80	11.80	12.30	12.50	12.30	12.25	12.25	12.20	12.20	12.09
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	15.85	16.15	18.45	21.60	25.30	22.50	18.75	16.05	15.00	13.65	12.80	12.50	17.38
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	17.80	17.80	17.85	18.55	18.65	18.45	18.35	18.25	19.10	18.80	18.70	18.50	18.40
Milk, condensed ..	tin	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.75	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.15	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.05
" fresh ..	quart	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb	8.50	9.10	9.15	9.65	9.80	9.80	9.75	9.95	9.95	9.80	9.50	9.50	9.54
" rib ..	"	6.95	7.45	7.60	8.30	8.35	8.30	8.20	8.45	8.50	8.30	7.90	7.75	8.00
" steak, rump ..	"	12.10	12.80	12.80	13.30	13.30	13.20	13.20	13.40	13.30	13.30	13.00	12.80	13.04
" chuck ..	"	7.70	8.10	8.00	8.50	8.35	8.45	8.45	8.65	8.65	8.30	8.20	7.80	8.26
" sausages ..	"	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.20	5.70	5.70	5.50	5.70	5.80	5.70	5.70	5.60	5.49
Beef (corned) silver-side ..	"	8.35	8.70	8.85	9.30	9.35	9.35	9.30	9.35	9.30	9.35	9.25	9.30	9.15
" brisket ..	"	6.30	6.85	6.80	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.30	7.50	7.35	7.40	7.25	7.25	7.17
Mutton, "leg ..	"	8.00	7.90	7.90	8.30	8.30	8.15	8.20	8.25	7.95	7.85	7.85	7.85	8.07
" forequarter ..	"	4.70	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.80	4.70	4.75	4.85	4.85	4.40	4.25	4.20	4.65
" loin ..	"	7.50	7.45	7.30	7.70	7.65	7.55	7.50	7.60	7.70	7.70	7.35	7.30	7.51
" chops, loin ..	"	8.30	8.50	8.40	8.60	8.60	8.50	8.50	8.60	8.70	8.40	8.30	8.20	8.45
" leg ..	"	9.00	9.00	9.10	9.20	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.20	9.30	9.10	9.00	8.70	9.07
Pork, "leg ..	"	10.75	10.65	10.90	11.25	10.95	11.10	10.95	11.25	11.35	11.30	11.05	11.35	11.07
" loin ..	"	11.25	11.00	11.35	11.80	11.55	11.60	11.50	11.85	12.00	11.80	11.60	11.90	11.60
" chops ..	"	11.40	11.50	11.60	11.90	11.90	12.10	12.20	12.50	12.60	12.20	11.90	12.10	11.99

## SECTION I.—continued.

Perth : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1938.

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APPENDIX.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1938.
<b>Groceries, &amp;c.—</b>														
Bread ..	2 lb.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Flour, ordinary ..	"	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	6.00	5.67
" self-raising ..	"	5.00	5.00	4.90	4.65	4.60	4.60	4.50	4.50	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.85	4.63
Tea ..	lb.	7.60	7.55	7.45	7.40	7.40	7.35	7.15	7.15	6.90	6.90	6.90	7.35	7.26
Sugar ..	"	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90	27.90
Rice (Australian) ..	"	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Sago ..	"	3.25	3.20	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15
Golden Syrup ..	"	8.65	8.70	8.70	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.70	8.70	8.70	8.70	8.70	8.70	8.75
Oats, flaked ..	2 lb.	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40
Raisins, seeded ..	lb.	3.75	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.75	3.85	3.90	3.90	3.85	3.85	3.85	3.85	3.81
Currants ..	"	9.30	9.30	9.40	9.40	9.45	9.35	9.35	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.35	9.45	9.36
Apricots, dried ..	"	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.45	8.50	8.55	8.75	8.80	8.80	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.61
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	15.30	15.30	15.20	15.10	15.10	15.00	14.70	14.80	14.60	14.70	14.70	14.60	14.93
Pears, canned ..	"	11.00	11.00	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.04
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	11.75	11.75	11.70	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.55	11.55	11.55	11.55	11.64
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	12.60	12.60	12.60	12.60	12.60	12.50	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.40	12.40	12.40	12.47
Onions, brown ..	lb.	5.45	5.45	7.65	7.75	7.60	9.05	10.40	13.25	13.45	13.90	9.35	9.10	9.35
Soap ..	"	2.00	1.95	1.85	1.95	2.00	2.30	2.55	2.60	2.60	2.60	2.25	2.00	2.22
Kerosene ..	quart	6.64	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67	6.67
<b>Dairy Produce—</b>														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	4.53	4.53	4.53	4.53	4.53	4.55	4.55	4.64	4.73	4.72	4.70	4.70	4.61
Cheese, mild ..	"	18.70	18.70	19.00	19.15	19.25	19.75	19.80	19.80	19.80	19.85	19.90	19.90	19.47
Eggs, new laid ..	1 doz.	13.70	13.70	13.70	13.70	13.70	14.40	14.90	14.90	14.90	14.70	14.70	14.70	14.29
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	18.20	19.50	24.00	26.20	29.80	28.50	21.00	16.70	15.60	13.90	14.00	14.45	20.16
Milk, condensed ..	tin	16.90	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.10	17.10	17.20	17.30	17.30	17.20	17.30	17.12
" fresh ..	quart	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.85	9.05	9.10	9.15	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.01
<b>Meat—</b>														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
" rib ..	"	8.20	8.45	8.60	9.00	9.10	9.00	8.80	8.80	8.90	9.30	9.00	8.90	8.84
" steak, rump ..	"	7.10	7.20	7.50	7.80	7.90	7.80	7.70	7.60	7.90	8.00	7.70	7.70	7.66
" chuck ..	"	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.80	14.90	14.90	15.00	15.00	14.90	14.90	15.00	14.80	14.80
" sausages ..	"	6.90	6.90	7.30	7.60	7.60	7.50	7.40	7.50	7.55	7.55	7.55	7.55	7.41
Beef (corned) silver-side ..	"	6.00	6.10	6.20	6.30	6.40	6.40	6.30	6.30	6.35	6.40	6.40	6.30	6.29
" brisket ..	"	8.10	8.10	8.10	8.40	8.50	8.40	8.25	8.35	8.40	8.45	8.45	8.45	8.33
Mutton, leg ..	"	6.20	6.20	6.20	6.55	6.50	6.50	6.25	6.35	6.35	6.55	6.45	6.45	6.38
" forequarter ..	"	7.50	7.80	8.10	8.30	8.55	8.25	8.05	8.00	7.80	7.55	7.45	7.50	7.91
" loin ..	"	4.20	4.30	4.65	4.85	5.15	5.00	4.65	4.65	4.75	4.35	4.05	4.15	4.56
" chops, loin ..	"	7.05	7.15	7.30	7.40	7.80	7.65	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	6.85	6.95	7.26
" leg ..	"	7.80	7.80	8.00	8.40	8.50	8.30	8.00	8.10	8.20	7.90	7.70	7.55	8.02
Pork, leg ..	"	8.10	8.20	8.20	8.50	8.60	8.50	8.30	8.30	8.40	8.30	8.10	8.10	8.30
" loin ..	"	13.40	13.40	14.05	14.20	14.30	14.10	13.70	14.00	14.10	14.20	14.30	14.40	14.01
" chops ..	"	13.00	13.00	13.60	13.80	13.90	13.80	13.40	13.60	13.80	13.90	14.00	14.00	13.65
" chops ..	"	13.00	13.00	13.70	13.90	14.10	14.10	13.80	13.90	14.10	14.10	14.20	14.20	13.84



## SECTION I.—continued.

Hobart : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1938.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1938.
<b>Groceries, &amp;c.—</b>		<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.21
Flour, ordinary ..	"	4.20	4.30	4.20	4.10	4.00	3.90	3.90	3.90	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.98
" self-raising ..	"	7.00	7.00	6.95	6.50	6.45	6.20	6.10	6.10	6.10	6.10	6.10	6.15	6.40
Tea ..	lb.	27.70	27.50	27.50	27.50	27.30	27.20	26.80	26.80	26.80	26.70	26.90	26.90	27.13
Sugar ..	"	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Rice (Australian) ..	"	3.40	3.40	3.50	3.50	3.55	3.45	3.45	3.45	3.45	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.47
Sago ..	"	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.45	3.50	3.45	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.60	3.47
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	7.85	7.85	7.85	7.90	7.70	7.65	7.65	7.60	7.55	7.55	7.50	7.65	7.69
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.35	7.40	7.39
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	3.60	3.65	3.60	3.65	3.70	3.70	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.75	3.70	3.66
Raisins, seeded ..	"	9.50	9.60	9.55	9.70	9.65	9.65	9.80	9.80	9.85	10.05	10.25	10.25	9.81
Currants ..	"	8.70	8.70	8.70	8.70	8.80	8.80	8.85	9.00	9.10	9.15	9.15	9.20	8.91
Apricots, dried ..	"	15.00	14.71	14.71	14.86	14.86	14.75	14.75	14.50	14.44	14.44	14.44	14.44	14.66
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	10.40	10.45	10.55	10.55	10.55	10.55	10.55	10.50	10.50	10.45	10.40	10.40	10.49
Pears, canned ..	"	10.00	10.40	10.55	10.50	10.55	10.55	10.55	10.40	10.40	10.35	10.30	10.40	10.41
Salmon, in tins ..	lb.	12.20	12.20	12.20	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.28
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	8.99	8.59	8.21	7.79	8.84	9.24	8.94	9.95	10.15	10.30	14.27	21.31	10.55
Onions, brown ..	lb.	2.10	2.00	2.05	2.00	2.00	2.05	2.10	2.45	2.45	2.85	2.90	2.95	2.33
Soap, ..	"	7.24	7.24	7.24	7.24	7.19	7.19	7.28	7.28	7.19	7.28	7.28	7.28	7.25
Kerosene ..	quart	5.52	5.52	5.52	5.52	5.53	5.53	5.53	5.53	5.53	5.53	5.53	5.53	5.53
<b>Dairy Produce—</b>														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	19.58
Cheese, mild ..	"	12.20	12.05	12.05	12.05	12.05	12.20	12.20	12.15	12.45	12.65	12.65	12.55	12.27
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	14.70	20.70	17.60	26.00	28.40	24.90	20.00	15.80	12.10	13.20	13.80	14.80	18.50
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	15.00	14.90	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.90	15.00	15.40	15.70	15.80	15.06
Milk, condensed ..	tin	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.10	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.27
" fresh ..	quart	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.10	6.10	6.02
<b>Meat—</b>														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	9.20	9.10	9.00	9.00	8.90	8.90	9.20	9.20	9.30	9.20	9.20	9.20	9.12
" rib ..	"	7.70	7.55	7.65	7.45	7.45	7.35	7.45	7.75	7.95	7.85	7.75	7.75	7.64
" steak, rump ..	"	12.60	12.60	12.60	12.60	12.60	12.70	12.80	13.20	13.30	13.30	13.30	12.90	12.88
" chuck ..	"	6.90	6.80	6.60	6.70	6.70	6.80	6.70	7.05	7.30	7.30	7.20	6.90	6.91
" sausages ..	"	5.90	5.90	5.90	5.90	5.90	5.90	5.90	5.90	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.93
Beef (corned) silver-side ..	"	9.00	9.00	9.00	8.90	8.80	9.00	8.90	9.10	9.10	9.00	9.10	9.10	8.25
" brisket ..	"	7.50	7.40	7.50	7.20	7.30	7.40	7.30	7.50	7.70	7.70	7.60	7.60	7.48
Mutton, leg ..	"	8.50	8.35	8.35	8.30	8.20	8.50	8.20	8.50	8.50	8.40	8.30	8.35	8.37
" forequarter ..	"	5.55	5.50	5.55	5.30	5.25	5.55	5.40	5.60	5.60	5.80	5.30	5.55	6.66
" loin ..	"	7.65	7.70	7.95	7.45	7.60	7.55	7.55	8.05	7.65	7.75	7.55	7.55	7.67
" chops, loin ..	"	9.40	9.40	9.20	9.30	9.30	9.20	9.40	9.40	9.50	9.30	9.20	9.00	9.30
" leg ..	"	9.50	9.50	9.30	9.40	9.30	9.60	9.40	9.60	9.90	9.20	9.30	9.30	9.44
Pork, leg ..	"	11.00	11.00	11.20	11.60	10.90	10.90	11.00	11.40	11.90	11.90	12.20	12.20	11.43
" loin ..	"	11.40	11.20	11.30	12.10	11.50	11.50	11.40	11.90	12.50	12.40	12.50	12.10	11.82
" chops ..	"	11.30	11.30	11.20	12.50	11.90	11.80	11.70	12.30	12.90	12.80	12.50	12.30	12.04

## Section II.

## Weekly House Rents (a) in Metropolitan and Country Towns.

TOWN.	WEIGHTED AVERAGE WEEKLY RENTS FOR 4 AND 5 ROOMS COMBINED.				
	1934.	1935.	1936.(b)	1937.(b)	1938.(b)
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES—</b>					
Sydney .. .. .	19 1	19 7	20 4	21 8	22 7
Newcastle .. .. .	17 4	18 6	18 5	18 8	19 4
Broken Hill .. .. .	14 1	14 2	14 0	14 0	15 4
Goulburn .. .. .	18 1	18 11	18 10	18 4	18 4
Bathurst .. .. .	17 2	17 1	17 6	17 1	17 3
<b>Weighted Average</b> .. .. .	<b>18 10</b>	<b>19 5</b>	<b>20 0</b>	<b>21 3</b>	<b>22 1</b>
<b>VICTORIA—</b>					
Melbourne .. .. .	17 9	18 7	19 3	20 5	21 0
Ballarat .. .. .	14 4	14 8	14 8	14 8	14 7
Bendigo .. .. .	14 6	15 2	15 1	15 1	14 10
Geelong .. .. .	16 4	17 7	18 6	18 7	19 1
Warrnambool .. .. .	17 8	18 7	17 11	18 0	19 2
<b>Weighted Average</b> .. .. .	<b>17 6</b>	<b>18 5</b>	<b>18 11</b>	<b>20 0</b>	<b>20 6</b>
<b>QUEENSLAND—</b>					
Brisbane .. .. .	15 2	15 10	16 9	18 6	18 11
Toowoomba .. .. .	16 1	16 5	17 2	17 7	17 5
Rockhampton .. .. .	13 1	13 1	13 0	16 4	16 9
Townsville .. .. .	11 4c	11 8c	11 0c	17 8	18 0
Bundaberg .. .. .	13 9d	14 2d	13 4d	12 1	13 2
<b>Weighted Average</b> .. .. .	<b>15 0</b>	<b>15 7</b>	<b>16 4</b>	<b>18 0</b>	<b>18 5</b>
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA—</b>					
Adelaide .. .. .	15 5	16 2	17 4	18 8	19 6
Kadina, etc .. .. .	8 6	8 8	8 2	7 9	8 1
Port Pirie .. .. .	13 2	13 9	13 6	13 10	14 5
Mount Gambier .. .. .	13 8	13 9	13 11	14 4	14 5
Peterborough .. .. .	14 4	14 7	15 6	15 5	15 6
<b>Weighted Average</b> .. .. .	<b>15 1</b>	<b>15 10</b>	<b>16 10</b>	<b>18 1</b>	<b>18 10</b>
<b>WESTERN AUSTRALIA—</b>					
Perth .. .. .	17 6	17 5	18 5	19 4	19 7
Kalgoorlie .. .. .	19 9	23 1	25 2	27 5	27 8
Northam .. .. .	17 2	16 11	17 1	18 0	18 5
Bunbury .. .. .	17 1	17 10	19 0	20 7	20 10
Geraldton .. .. .	20 4	20 8	21 8	22 4	22 1
<b>Weighted Average</b> .. .. .	<b>17 9</b>	<b>17 11</b>	<b>18 11</b>	<b>20 0</b>	<b>20 3</b>
<b>TASMANIA—</b>					
Hobart .. .. .	19 0	19 7	19 10	20 2	20 6
Launceston .. .. .	16 11	17 1	17 5	18 7	18 10
Burnie .. .. .	14 5	15 4	16 1	17 1	17 5
Devonport .. .. .	15 0	16 2	15 7	15 2	15 10
Queenstown .. .. .	15 6	16 1	16 3	16 9	16 6
<b>Weighted Average</b> .. .. .	<b>17 11</b>	<b>18 5</b>	<b>18 7</b>	<b>19 3</b>	<b>19 6</b>
<b>Weighted Average, Australia</b> .. .. .	<b>17 7</b>	<b>18 3</b>	<b>18 10</b>	<b>20 1</b>	<b>20 8</b>

(a) The rents are shown to the nearest penny.

(b) Not strictly comparable with previous years.

(c) Charters Towers.

(d) Warwick.

## SECTION III.—RETAIL PRICES.

"Court" Series Index.\*—In the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration—Quarterly Retail Prices Index Numbers.—Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5 rooms), Clothing and Miscellaneous Household Expenditure.—"Court" Series for Quarter ended June, 1939.

(Base : Weighted Average—Six Capitals in 1923-27 = 81.0.)

Cities and Towns.	1938.			1939.		Year ended June, 1939.
	June Quarter.	September Quarter.	December Quarter.	March Quarter.	June Quarter.	
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES—</b>						
Sydney .. .. .	73.5	74.7	74.6	75.6	75.4	75.1
Newcastle .. ..	70.7	71.7	72.0	72.7	72.7	72.3
Broken Hill .. ..	75.8	76.3	77.2	78.5	77.6	77.5
Goulburn .. .. .	72.0	72.8	73.0	74.1	74.1	73.5
Bathurst .. .. .	69.3	69.8	70.5	71.2	71.2	70.7
Weighted Average—5 Towns	73.3	74.5	74.5	75.4	75.2	74.9
<b>VICTORIA—</b>						
Melbourne .. .. .	72.2	73.3	73.3	74.7	74.6	74.0
Ballarat .. .. .	68.5	69.4	69.2	70.3	70.6	69.9
Bendigo .. .. .	68.8	69.6	69.8	70.7	70.4	70.1
Geelong .. .. .	71.1	72.2	72.7	73.4	73.6	73.0
Warrnambool .. ..	71.8	72.9	73.2	73.8	74.0	73.5
Weighted Average—5 Towns	72.0	73.0	73.1	74.4	74.2	73.7
<b>QUEENSLAND—</b>						
Brisbane .. .. .	68.8	69.4	69.2	70.7	70.1	69.9
Toowoomba .. .. .	68.3	68.5	67.9	69.9	69.2	68.9
Rockhampton .. ..	69.1	69.4	69.0	70.5	69.9	69.7
Townsville .. .. .	72.9	73.3	73.3	74.7	74.1	73.8
Bundaberg .. .. .	67.4	67.6	67.5	68.7	68.4	68.1
Weighted Average—5 Towns	69.0	69.5	69.3	70.8	70.2	69.9
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA —</b>						
Adelaide .. .. .	72.0	72.3	72.3	73.5	73.5	72.9
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo ..	63.7	63.9	64.0	65.2	65.4	64.7
Port Pirie .. .. .	70.1	70.5	71.0	72.4	72.4	71.6
Mount Gambier .. ..	68.5	68.7	69.7	70.2	70.8	69.9
Peterborough .. ..	70.3	70.3	70.6	72.5	72.4	71.5
Weighted Average—5 Towns	71.6	71.9	71.9	73.2	73.2	72.5
<b>WESTERN AUSTRALIA—</b>						
Perth, Fremantle .. ..	71.7	71.7	71.6	72.5	73.2	72.3
Kalgoorlie, Boulder .. ..	85.2	85.6	85.2	86.1	86.4	85.8
Northam .. .. .	73.2	73.0	72.9	73.7	74.3	73.5
Bunbury .. .. .	74.0	74.7	74.5	75.1	75.8	75.0
Geraldton .. .. .	77.8	77.7	77.3	78.3	78.2	77.9
Weighted Average—5 Towns	72.9	72.9	72.8	73.7	74.3	73.4
<b>TASMANIA—</b>						
Hobart .. .. .	71.6	71.6	72.3	72.9	73.4	72.6
Launceston .. .. .	70.4	70.6	71.2	71.5	71.9	71.3
Burnie .. .. .	69.9	70.2	70.3	70.6	71.0	70.5
Devonport .. .. .	68.3	68.6	69.0	69.2	69.7	69.1
Queenstown .. .. .	70.0	71.1	71.7	72.7	73.3	72.2
Weighted Average—5 Towns	71.0	71.1	71.7	72.2	72.6	71.9
Weighted Average—30 Towns	72.1	73.0	73.0	74.1	74.1	73.6
Weighted Average—6 Capitals	72.4	73.3	73.3	74.4	74.2	73.8

SPECIAL TOWNS NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES.

Charters Towers (Q.) ..	67.7	68.2	68.6	71.1	70.5	69.6
Warwick (Q.) .. .. .	63.9	65.8	66.0	67.2	67.2	66.5
Port Augusta (S.) .. ..	69.9	70.0	70.3	71.7	71.2	70.8

\* See page 37 for explanation.

## Section IV.

Wholesale Prices, Melbourne : Averages for years 1937 and 1938.

COMMODITY.	UNIT.	1937.	1938.	COMMODITY.	UNIT.	1937.	1938.
		s. d.	s. d.			s. d.	s. d.
<b>GROUP I. METALS—</b>				<b>GROUP V. GROCERIES, ETC.—</b>			
Iron—Pig—				Currants ..	lb.	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mixed Nos. . .	ton	145 0	153 0	Raisins ..	doz. 1-lb.	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Rod and Bar ..	"	410 0	430 0	Herrings ..	tins	9 3	9 3
Angle ..	"	200 0	210 0	Salmon ..	doz. hlvs	22 0	22 0
Plate ..	"	340 0	356 0	Sardines ..	lb.	9 3	9 3
Hoop ..	"	351 0	366 3	Tea ..	lb.	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Galvanized ..	"	340 0	350 0	Coffee ..	"	2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Wire, Fencing ..	"	309 2	307 6	Cocoa ..	"	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 6
Tinned Plates ..	box	73 0	67 2	Sugar ..	ton	696 0	696 0
Zinc—Sheet ..	ton	1,870 4	1210 3	Macaroni ..	lb.	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lead—Sheet ..	"	727 4	567 6	Tapioca ..	cwt.	20 6	20 6
Pipes ..	lb.	868 5	725 2	Rice ..	ton	445 0	445 0
Copper—Sheet ..	"	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	Salt—Fine ..	"	105 0	105 0
Quicksilver ..	"	2 3	2 3	Rock ..	doz. 1-lb.	171 0	171 8
Coal (on Wharf)	ton	35 3	36 3	Mustard ..	tins	44 4	44 4
<b>GROUP II. WOOL, COTTON, ETC.—</b>				Starch ..	lb.	0 10	0 10
Jute Goods—				Blue ..	"	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Branbags ..	doz.	6 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Matches ..	gross	5 4	5 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cornbags ..	"	7 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Candles ..	lb.	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Woolpacks ..	each	2 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 10	Kerosene ..	gallon	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Leather—				<b>GROUP VI. MEAT—</b>			
Chrome Box				Beef ..	100 lb.	31 3	38 5
Hide ..	ft.	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	Mutton ..	lb.	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Rough Tanned				Lamb ..	"	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
—Split ..	lb.	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	Veal ..	"	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sole Leather—				Pork ..	"	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Factory Sides ..	lb.	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>GROUP VII. BUILDING MATERIAL—</b>			
Cotton—Raw ..	"	0 8	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	Timber, Flooring			
Wool—Greasy ..	"	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ..	rooft. lin.	32 2	33 4
Tallow ..	ton	506 0	349 11	6 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ..	"	24 5	24 0
<b>GROUP III. AGRICULT'L PRODUCE—</b>				6 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ..	"	21 6	21 6
Wheat ..	bushel	5 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ..	"	15 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	15 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Flour ..	ton	253 11	193 1	Weatherboards	1,000 ft.	17 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bran ..	"	126 1	127 6	Oregon ..	sup.	359 0	308 6
Pollard ..	"	139 9	130 9	Shelving ..	"	638 7	582 6
Oats ..	bushel	3 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	Cement ..	cask	19 2	19 2
Oatmeal ..	ton	440 7	446 10	White Lead ..	ton	1,329 6	1,178 3
Barley—English	bushel	4 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>GROUP VIII. CHEMICALS—</b>			
Cape ..	"	4 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	Cream of Tartar	lb.	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Malze ..	"	5 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	Bi-Carbonate of	ton	275 0	306 9
Hay ..	ton	194 5	222 0	Soda ..	"	917 3	891 2
Chaff ..	"	93 7	122 3	Saltpetre ..	"	234 10	240 11
Straw ..	"	55 8	71 1	Caustic Soda ..	"	453 5	483 6
Peas ..	bushel	6 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 2	Alum ..	"	800 0	800 0
Potatoes ..	ton	68 4	181 3	Potassium			
Malt ..	bushel	5 6	5 6	Cyanide ..	lb.	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Onions ..	"	182 1	165 2				
<b>GROUP IV. DAIRY PRODUCE—</b>							
Ham ..	lb.	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Bacon ..	"	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 2				
Cheese ..	"	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Butter ..	"	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Lard ..	"	0 8	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Eggs ..	doz.	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Honey ..	lb.	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Beeswax ..	"	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Condensed Milk	doz. tins	7 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 10 $\frac{1}{2}$				

NOTE.—In many instances these prices are the averages of certain brands which have been on the market for a great number of years, and these particular commodities and prices were therefore adopted in the scheme of computing the index-numbers for fluctuations in wholesale prices generally.

## Section V.

**Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Male Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of each State for a Full Week's Work, at 31st December, 1938.**

NOTE.—These rates are quoted from the latest Awards, Determinations, or Agreements which were in force at the 31st December, 1938, except in the case of the rates for farming occupations which are the ruling or predominant rates at that date. Where two or more Award, Determination, or Agreement Rates are quoted, the reason for such is that different rates of wage have been fixed for various classes or grades of work. In certain cases of this nature the wages are shown in the form (say) 77s. 8d. to 83s. 1d., indicating that in addition to the two rates specified there are also certain intermediate rates in force. In other cases the rates are shown in the form 71s. 5d. and 82s. 2d., indicating that there are only two minimum or standard rates in force for different classes or grades of work, and that there are no intermediate minimum or standard rates. Except where otherwise specified by a numerical prefix in small type, the hours of labour constituting a full week's work are forty-eight, *vide* footnotes below.

**GROUP I.—WOOD, FURNITURE, SAWMILLS AND TIMBER YARDS.**

Industry & Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Coopering—</b>						
Coopers .. ..	*114 0	*120 0	*113 6	*115 0	*110 1	*110 0
<b>Furniture—</b>						
Cabinetmakers ..	*107 0	*101 0	*113 11	*100 0	*105 1	*100 0
Carpet Planners ..	*107 0	*101 0	..	*100 0	*97 10	*100 0
Chairmakers .. ..	*107 0	*101 0	*113 11	*100 0	*105 1	*100 0
French Polishers ..	*107 0	*101 0	*113 11	*100 0	*101 2	*100 0
Upholsterers .. ..	*107 0	*99 0	*113 11	*98 0	*105 1	*98 0
Woodcarvers .. ..	*107 0	*101 0	*113 11	*100 0	*105 1	*100 0
Wood Machinists ..	*107 0	*86/ to 101/	*113 11	*85/ to 100/	*102/1 & 105/1	*83/ & 100/
<b>Mattress Making—Wire—</b>						
Finishers .. ..	*102 0	*92 0	*107 6	*91 0	..	*91 0
Makers .. ..	*102 0	*92 0	*107 6	*91 0	*102 1	*91 0
<b>Picture Framing—</b>						
Compo. Workers ..	*101 0	*87 0	*100 0	*85 0	*96 1	..
General Hands ..	*101 0	*87 0	*100 0	*86 0	*96 1	*76 0
Gilders .. ..	*101 0	*89 0	*100 0	*88 0	*96 1	..
Mount Cutters ..	*101 0	*89 0	*100 0	*88 0	*96 1	..
<b>Saw Milling and Timber Yards—</b>						
Box and Casemakers	*94 0	*92 0	*89 11	*89 0	*88 7	*89 0
Labourers .. ..	*81 0	*79 0	*89 0	*76 0	*81 1	*76 0
<b>Machinists—</b>						
Box Printing .. ..	*87 0	*85 0	*89 11	*82 0	*84 1	*82 0
Boults Carver ..	*105 0	*103 0	*95 6	*100 0	*101 7	*100 0
Nailing .. ..	*88 0	*86 0	*90 0	*83 0	*89 7	*83 0
Planing .. ..	*91/ & 100/	*89/ to 98/	*90 10	*86/ to 95/	*95/7 & 101/7	*86/ to 95/
Shaping .. ..	*105 0	*103 0	*108 4	*100 0	*105 7	*100 0
Ordermen .. ..	*94 0	*92 0	*91 10	*89 0	*95 1	*89 0
Saw Doctors .. ..	*114 0	*112 0	*104 8	*109 0	*111 1	*109 0
<b>Sawyers—</b>						
Band or Jig .. ..	*95/ to 108/	*93/ to 106/	*98 2	*90/ to 103/	*92/7 & 98/7	*90/ to 103/
Circular .. ..	*95/ & 102/	*93/ & 100/	*95 6	*90/ & 97/	*90/7 & 98/7	*90/ & 97/
Stackers .. ..	*88 0	*86 0	*104 8	*83 0	*86 1	*83 0
Wood Turners ..	*105 0	*103 0	*98 3	*100 0	*104 1	*100 0

**GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.**

Industry & Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Agricultural Implements</b>						
Assemblers .. ..	*99 6	*87/ & 96/	*90 0	*84/ & 94/	*88/7 & 92/1	..
Bulldozermen ..	*112 6	*91 0	..	*88 0	..	..
Drillers .. ..	*95/6 & 101/6	*85 0	..	*84 0	*86/11	..
Fitters .. ..	*99/6 & 111/6	*92/ to 97/	..	*89/ to 94/	*96/1 & 99/1	..
Labourers—unskilled	*89 6	*79 0	..	*76 0	*81 1	..
<b>Machinists—Iron</b>	*101/6 & 111/6	*85/ to 109/	..	*82/ to 106/	*93/1 & 105/1	..
Painters—Brush ..	*78 6	*85 0	..	*82 0	..	..
Scroll .. ..	*85 6	*94 0	..	*91 0	..	..
Patternmakers ..	*120 6	*118 0	..	*115 0	*114 1	..
Sheet Iron Workers	*99 6	*99/ & 107/	..	*96/ to 104/	..	..
Strikers .. ..	*95 6	*88/ & 90/	..	*85/ & 87/	*91 1	..

**Various numbers of hours constituting a full week's work.**

(1) 35 hours. (2) 36 hours. (3) 40 hours. (4) 42 hours. (5) 43 hours. (6) 44 hours. (7) 45 hours. (8) 46 hours. (10) 46½ hours—Daylight, 48 hours, artificial light, 45 hours. (11) 47 hours. (12) 47½ hours. (13) 60 hours. (14) 86 hours per fortnight. (15) 96 hours per fortnight. (16) 48 hours, summer, 46 hours, winter. (17) 88 hours per fortnight. (18) 50 hours. (19) 52 hours.

## SECTION V.—continued.

## GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	£. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Boiler Making—</b>						
Journeyman ..	£111 0	£109 0	£110 8	£106 0	£111 1	£106 0
Railwayman ..	£111 0	£109 0	£106 11	£106 0	£111 1	£106 0
<b>Brassworking—</b>						
Coremakers ..	£90/ to 111/	£88/ to 109/	£110 8	£85/ to 106/	£111 1	£85 to 106/
Dressers ..	£92/ & 94/	£90/ & 92/	£ 87 4	£87/ & 89/	£ 94 1	£87/ & 91/
Finishers ..	£99/ to 108/	£97/ to 107/	£110 8	£94/ to 104/	£111 1	£94/ & 104/
Furnacemen ..	£96 0	£94 0	£87/4 to 96/8	£91 0	£96 1	£91 0
Moulders ..	£90/ to 111/	£88/ to 109/	£103 & 110/8	£85/ to 106/	£111 1	£85/ to 106/
<b>Cycles—</b>						
Assemblers ..	£89 0	£87/6 & 92/	£98/4 & 110/8	84 0	£91 1	£80 0
Frame Builders ..	£90 8	£92/ & 94/3	£110 8	£85/ to 100/	..	£80 0
Repairers ..	£90 8	£92/ & 94/3	£110 8	91 6	..	£80 0
Turners (Motor) ..	£108 0	£106 0	£117 4	£98 0	£111 1	£104 0
<b>Electrical Installation—</b>						
Cable Jointers ..	£117 0	106/ & 108/	£111 1	103/ & 105/	..	103/ & 105/
Fitters ..	£117 0	£109 0	£113 10	£106 0	£111 1	£106 0
Mechanics ..	£111 0	106 0	£111 1	93 0	£111 1	103 0
Patrolmen ..	..	90/6 & 102/	£88 9	86/ & 96/	..	86/ & 96/
Wiremen ..	£111 0	£102 0	£111 1	£99 0	£104 1	99 0
Other Adults ..	..	79 0	£86 0	76 0	£81 1	76 0
<b>Electrical Supply—</b>						
Armature Winders ..	£117 0	109 0	£113 10	106 0	£111 1	106 0
Cable Jointers ..	£117 0	106/ & 108/	£111 1	103/ & 105/	..	103/ & 105/
Instrument Makers ..	£117 0	109 0	£113 10	106 0	£111 1	106 0
Linesmen ..	£111 0	102 0	£111 1	99 0	£104 1	99 0
Meter Testers ..	£111 0	97/ & 101/	£111 1	93/ & 96/	..	93/ & 96/
Patrolmen—Night ..	..	89/ & 99/	£96/10	86/ & 96/	..	86/ & 96/
Shift Electricians ..	£117 0	103/ & 109/	£127 10	100/ & 106/	..	100/ & 106/
Switchboard Attendants ..	..	100 6	£86 0	96 6	..	96 6
Other Adults ..	£96 0	79 0	£86 0	76 0	..	76 0
<b>Electrical Trades—</b>						
Fitters ..	£117 0	£109 0	£113 10	£106 0	£111 1	£106 0
Mechanics ..	£111 0	£106 0	£111 1	103 0	£111 1	103 0
Wiremen ..	£111 0	106 0	£111 1	£103 0	£104 1	103 0
<b>Electroplating—</b>						
Platers ..	£99/6 & 107/6	£87/ to 109/	£100 0	£84/ to 106/	£105 1	84/ to 106/
Polishers ..	£97/6 to 101/6	£100 6	£94/6 & 100/	£87 0	£93 1	..
<b>Engineering—</b>						
Blacksmiths ..	£112 0	£110 0	£114 4	£107 0	£111 1	£107 0
Boilers and Slotters ..	£111 0	£109 0	£110 8	£106 0	£111 1	£106 0
Brassfinishers ..	£111 0	£109 0	£110 8	£106 0	£111 1	£106 0
Coppersmiths ..	£111 0	£109 0	£114 4	£106 0	£111 1	£106 0
Drillers—Radial ..	£91/ to 106/	£89/ & 106/	£94 8	£86/ to 103/	£108 1	£86/ to 103/
Fitters ..	£111 0	£109 0	£110 8	£106 0	£111 1	£106 0
Millers ..	£108 0	£106 0	£110 8	£103 0	£111 1	£103 0
Pattern Makers ..	£120 0	£118 0	£116 0	£115 0	£120 1	£115 0
Planers—						
Rail and Plate, Edge ..	£99 0	£97 0	£92 0	£94 0	£92 1	£104 0
Other ..	£108 0	£106 0	£110 8	£103 0	£111 1	£103 0
Shapers ..	£108 0	£106 0	£110 8	£103 0	£111 1	£103 0
Turners ..	£108 0	£106 0	£110 8	£103 0	£111 1	£103 0
<b>Ironworking—Assistants—</b>						
Boilermakers' Helpers ..	£90 0	£88 0	£87 4	£85 0	£90 1	£85 0
" Labourers ..	£90 0	£88 0	£87 4	£85 0	£81 1	£85 0
Engineers' Labourers ..	£90 0	£88 0	£85 8	£85 0	£90 1	£85 0
Furnacemen's Assistants ..	£90 0	£88 0	£85 8	£85 0	£90 1	£85 0
Moulders' Labourers ..	£90 0	£88 0	£85 8	£85 0	£90 1	£85 0
Strikers ..	£90/ & 92/	£88/ & 90/	£87 4	£85/ & 87/	£81 1	£85/ & 87/

## SECTION V.—continued.

## GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Moulding—Iron—</b>						
Coremakers—Machine	°90/ to 101/	°88/ to 99/	°110 8	°85 to 96/	°96 1	°85/ to 96/
„ Other ..	°111 0	°109 0	°110 8	°106 0	°111 1	°108 0
Dressers and Fettlers	°92/ & 94/	°90/ & 92/	°87 4	°87/ & 89/	°92 1	°85/ & 89/
Furnaceman ..	°96/ to 109/	°94/ & 106/	°87/4 to 96/8	°91/ & 103/	°96/1 & 111/	°91/ & 103/
Moulders—Machine ..	°90/ to 101/	°88/ to 99/	°103 0	°85/ to 96/	°96 1	°85/ to 96/
„ Other ..	°111 0	°109 0	°110 8	°106 0	°111 1	°106 0
<b>Sheet Metal Working—</b>						
Canister Makers ..	°87 6	°87/ & 91/	°96 4	78/ to 86/	93 1	°99/ & 102/8
Japanners—						
Coating or Brush-						
work ..	°96 0	°87 0	°98 2	81 6	..	..
Ornamental ..	°98 0	°99 0	°98 2	93 6	..	..
Solderers ..	°87/6 & 91/6	°87/ & 91/	°98 2	80 0	89 1	..
Tinsmiths ..	°101 6	°99/ & 107/	°98 2	90/6 & 97/6	101/1 & 109/1	°99/ & 102/8
<b>Nailmaking—</b>						
Case Wires ..	°87 0	°81 0	..	74 0	..	..
Labourers ..	°87 0	°81 0	..	74 0	..	..
Setters Up ..	°106 0	°93 0	..	74/ to 88/6	..	..
<b>Wire Working—</b>						
Journeymen ..	°101 0	°94 0	..	89 0	90 1	..

## GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Aerated Water and</b>						
<b>Cordials—</b>						
Bottlers ..	°83/6 & 86/	81/6 & 84/	°81 0	82 6	°86 1	°90 6
Drivers (Motor) ..	°90/ to 97/	1°883/ to 95/	°90/ & 98/	1°883/ to 91/	°93 1	85/ to 92/
„ (One Horse) ..	°85 0	1°83 0	°88 0	1°80 0	°93 1	80 0
Packers ..	°87 0	79 0	°81 0	79 6	°86 1	°92 6
Wires ..	°87 0	79 0	..	79 6	°86 1	°92 6
<b>Baking (Bread)—</b>						
Board Hands ..	°118 0	°111 10	°99/ to 104/	86 0	°115 1	108 0
Carters (One Horse) ..	°104 6	°108 0	°90 0	87 0	°91 7	80 0
Doughmen ..	°118/ & 120/6	°111 10	°106 6	96 0	°120 1	108 0
Ovenmen ..	°126 6	°111 10	°104 0	96 0	°115 1	108 0
Singlehands ..	°124 0	°121 0	°106 6	101 0	°120 1	108 0
<b>Baking (Biscuits and</b>						
<b>Cakes)—</b>						
Adult Males ..	°87 0	°81 0	°81 0	74 0	89 1	82 0
Bakers ..	°102 0	°90 0	°88 6	79 0	91 1	92 6
Mixers ..	°93 0	°90 0	°88 6	77 0	91 1	97 0
<b>Brewing—</b>						
Adult Males ..	°100 0	°102 0	°89 0	°97 6	°105 0	92 6
Bottlers and Washers	°100 0	°102 0	°89 0	°97 6	°105 0	92 6
Cellarmen ..	°100/ & 103/	°105 3	°94 0	°97 6	°105 0	92 6
Drivers (Two Horses)	°103 0	88 0	°94 0	°100 6	°105 0	85 0
„ (Motor under 3	°109 0	88/ to 92/	°91/ to 102/	°103 6	°105 0	85/ & 89/
tons) ..	°103 0	°106 0	°89 0	°100 6	°105 0	94 6
Towermen ..						
<b>Butchering (Carcaass)—</b>						
Chilling Room Hands	°97 0	..	°98 6	120 6	°87 1	..
Labourers (Beef) ..	°101 0	°86 6	°86 0	100 6	°91 1	85 6
„ (Mutton) ..	°92 6	°86 6	°86 0	100 6	°91 1	..
Scalders ..	°113 0	95 0	°98 6	114 6	°91 1	..
Slaughtermen (Beef) ..	°143 6	°109 0	°108 6	135 6	°108 7	108 0
„ (Mutton)	(a)	°109 0	°108 6	135 6	°108 7	108 0

(a) Piecework rates.



SECTION V.—*continued.*GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Butchering (Retail)—</b>						
Carters (Cash Cutting) ..	°108 0	97 6	°98 6	94 6	101 1	1102 6
General Hands ..	°90 6	85 0	°89 6	83 0	86 1	1102 6
Shopmen ..	°101 6	97 6	°98 6	92 6	101 1	1102 6
	°100/6 & 108/	97 6	°98 6	92 6	101/1 & 106/1	1102 6
Smallgoodsmen ..	°109 6	95 0	°98 6	92 6	101 1	1100 0
<b>Cold Storage and Ice—</b>						
Chamber Hands ..	°98/6 to 104/6	°101 5	°126 9	..	..	82 3
Pullers and Stackers..	°92/ & 101/6	°101 5	°122 3	..	..	82 3
<b>Confectionery—</b>						
Journeymen ..	°105 0	°92 6	°88 6	79/ & 84/6	..	84 6
Storemen ..	°83 0	°83/6 to 87/6	°85 0	74 0	..	87 3
<b>Ham and Bacon Curing—</b>						
Curers—First Hand ..	°117 0	105 0	°110 0	103 0	109 1	11100 0
Cutters Up—First Hand	°103 0	97 6	°104 0	95 6	109 1	1102 6
Ham Baggers ..	..	90 6	°98 0	88 6	94 7	1102 6
Lardmen ..	°89 6	90/6 & 97/6	°98 0	88 6	99 7	1102 6
Rollers and Trimmers	°94 6	97 6	°91 9	95 6	94/7 & 99/7	1102 6
Scalders ..	°89 6	97 6	°100 6	95 6	102 1	1102 6
Slaughtermen ..	°103 6	105 0	°110 0	103 0	109 1	11108 0
Smallgoodsmen—						
First Hand ..	°109 6	105 0	°110 0	103 0	109 1	11100 0
Smokers—First Hand	°95 6	97 6	°104 0	95 6	94 7	1102 6
<b>Jam Making and Pre-</b>						
<b>serving—</b>						
Adult Males ..	°81 0	°78 0	°81 0	°78 0	89 1	°78 0
Solderers ..	°88 0	°85 0	°98 2	°85 0	89 1	°85 0
<b>Malting—</b>						
Maltsters ..	°103/ & 105/	95 0	°81 0	°97 6	96 1	83 0
<b>Milling—Condiments—</b>						
Grinders ..	°95 6	°82 0	°82 6	74 6	..	..
Mixers or Blenders ..	°88 6	°84 0	°82 6	76 6	..	..
Stone Dressers ..	°119 6	°89 6	°82 6	82 0	..	..
<b>Milling—Flour—</b>						
Millers—Head ..	°110 0	°110 0	°109 6	°111 0	°111 0	117 0
.. Shift ..	°97/ to 107/6	°97/ to 107/6	°101/ to 109/	°97/ to 107/6	°97/ to 107/6	94/6 & 102/7
Packermen ..	°85 0	°85 0	°80 6	°85 0	°85 0	85 6
Purifiermen ..	°88 0	°88 0	°80 6	°88 0	°88 0	81 0
Silksmen ..	°88 0	°88 0	°80 6	°88 0	°88 0	81 0
Storemen—Head ..	°89/ & 95/	°90/ & 95/	°94 6	°90/ & 95/	°90/ & 95/	90 0
Topmen ..	°88 0	°88 0	°89 6	°88 0	°88 0	85 6
Truckers and Others..	°81/ to 84/	°80/ & 84/	..	°81/ to 84/	°81/ & 84/	81 0
<b>Milling—Oatmeal—</b>						
Kilnmen ..	°91 0	°82 6	°82 6	75 0	..	81/ & 85/6
Millers—Head ..	°101 6	°89 6	°90/6 to 101/6	82 0	..	103 6
<b>Pastrycooking—</b>						
Carters ..	°91 0	83	°88 0	82 0	90 7	80 0
Pastrycooks ..	°105 0	103 0	°109 0	92 6	101/1 & 108/7	101 0

## GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Bootmaking—</b>						
Bootmakers ..	°104 0	°104 0	°104 0	°104 0	°93 11	°104 0
<b>Tailoring—Order—</b>						
Cutters ..	°108 0	°108 0	°108 0	°108 0	°114 1	°108 0
Pressers ..	°98 0	°98 0	°98 0	°98 0	°100 1	°98 0
Tailors ..	°98 0	°98 0	°98 0	°98 0	°100 1	°98 0
Trimmers ..	°98 0	°98 0	°98 0	°98 0	°100 1	°98 0

## SECTION V.—continued.

## GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Tailoring—Ready-made—</b>						
Cutters .. ..	°101 0	°101 0	°101 0	°101 0	°98 1	°101 0
Folders .. ..	°81 6	°81 6	°81 6	°81 6	..	°81 6
Machinists .. ..	°98 0	°98 0	°98 0	°98 0	..	°98 0
Pressers .. ..	°98 0	°98 0	°98 0	°98 0	°98 1	°98 0
Tailors .. ..	°98 0	°98 0	°98 0	°98 0	°98 1	°98 0
Trimmers .. ..	°98 0	°98 0	°98 0	°98 0	°98 1	°98 0
<b>Textile-Working—Woollen Mills—</b>						
Carders .. ..	°84 0	°82 0	°81 0	°81 0	°82 0	°82 0
Dyehousemen ..	°85 6	°82 0	°81 0	°81 0	°82 0	°82 0
Labourers—General ..	°84 0	°82 0	°81 0	°81 0	°82 0	°82 0
Pattern Weavers ..	°84 0	°85 0	..	°84 0	°85 0	°85 0
Scourers .. ..	°84 6	°87 0	°81 0	°86 0	°87 0	°87 0
Spinners .. ..	°85 0	°82 0	°82 0	°81 0	°82 0	°82 0
Tuners .. ..	°88/ to 99/6	°83/ to 99/	°81/ to 92/	°82/ to 98/	°83/ & 99/	°83/ to 99/

## GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Bookbinding—</b>						
Bookbinders .. ..	°108 0	°106 0	°102 0	°103 0	°103 0	°103 0
Finishers .. ..	°108 0	°106 0	°102 0	°103 0	°103 0	°103 0
Marblers .. ..	°108 0	°106 0	°102 0	°103 0	°103 0	°103 0
Paper Rulers .. ..	°108 0	°106 0	°102 0	°103 0	°103 0	°103 0
<b>Engraving (Process)—(b)</b>						
Engravers .. ..	°113 6	°110/ & 115/	..	94 0	..	..
Etchers—Half-tone ..	°119 6	°110/ & 115/	°111 0	106 6	°111 1	..
Etchers—Line .. ..	°113 6	°110/ & 115/	°106 0	92/6 & 101/6	°102 11	..
Operators .. ..	°119 6	°110/ & 115/	°111 0	106 6	°111 1	..
Printers .. ..	°113 6	°110/ & 115/	°101 0	82 6	°105 11	..
Routers .. ..	°108 6	°108 0	°98 0	82 6	°95 10	..
<b>Lithographing—</b>						
Printers .. ..	°108 0	°106 0	°102 0	°103 0	°103 0	°103 0
Rotary Machinists ..	°108 0	°106 0	°102 0	°103 0	°103 0	°103 0
Stone Polishers .. ..	°89 0	°87 0	°83 0	°84 0	°84 0	°84 c
<b>Printing (Daily Newspapers)—</b>						
Compositors—						
Day Work .. ..	°131 0	°113 11	°115 10	°112 0	°142 7	°106 0
Night Work .. ..	°141 0	°131 4	°123 2	°121 0	°155 4	°116 0
Linotype Attendants—						
Day Work .. ..	°131 6	°95 6	°102 0	°88 0	°129 10	°87 6
Night Work .. ..	°141 6	°104 6	°107 0	°97 0	°142 7	°96 6
Linotype Operators—						
Day Work .. ..	°157/6 & 167/6	(a)	°127 6	(a)	°151 11	(a)
Night Work .. ..	°167/6 & 177/6	(a)	°134 10	(a)	°164 8	(a)
<b>Machinists (First Hand)—</b>						
Day Work .. ..	°131 0	°110 4	°124 6	°112 0	°134 1	°105 0
Night Work .. ..	°141 0	°119 4	°129 6	°121 0	°146 10	°116 0
Publishers .. ..	°111/6 & 121/6	° & 89/3 to 103/3	°91/ to 107/	° & 91/ to 99/	°118/9 & 121/6	° & 4 85/ & 94/
<b>Readers—</b>						
Day Work .. ..	°139 6	°113 11	°112 0	°115 5	°142 7	°109 0
Night Work .. ..	°149 6	°131 4	°117 0	°124 0	°155 4	°118 0
<b>Readers' Assistants—</b>						
Day Work .. ..	°108 6	°89 3	°97 0	°88 0	°114 1	°82 0
Night Work .. ..	°118 6	°98 3	°102 0	°97 0	°126 5	°91 0
<b>Stereotypers (First Class)—</b>						
Day Work .. ..	°124 0	°99 3	°104/6 & 112/	°100 0	°127 9	°94 0
Night Work .. ..	°134 0	°108 3	°109/6 & 117/	°109 0	°140 5	°103 0

(a) Piece-work rates.

(b) Other than in newspaper offices.

## SECTION V.—continued.

## GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Printing (Job Offices)—</b>						
Compositors ..	108/ to 117/	106/ to 115/	102/ to 111/	103/ to 112/	103/ to 112/	103/ & 112/
Electrotypers ..	108 0	106 0	102 0	103 0	103 0	103 0
General Hands ..	81 0	79 0	75 0	76 0	76 0	76 0
Linotype Operators ..	117 0	115 0	111 0	112 0	112 0	112 0
Machinists ..	108 0	106 0	102 0	103 0	103 0	103 0
Monotype Operators ..	117 0	115 0	111 0	112 0	112 0	112 0
Monotype Casting						
Machinists ..	108 0	106 0	102 0	103 0	103 0	103 0
Readers ..	111 0	109 0	105 0	106 0	106 0	106 0
Stereotypers ..	108 0	106 0	102 0	103 0	103 0	103 0

## GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Brickmaking—</b>						
Burners ..	111 0	88 0	89/ to 95/	83 0	88/7 & 102/1	90 9
Carters—Two horses ..	99 6	87 6	93 0	83 0	95 7	85 0
Drawers ..	111 0	89/ to 92/6	83 6	91 0	(a)	90 9
Labourers ..	104 5	78 0	81 8	80 0	88 7	88 0
Machinemen ..	102 9	85 0	83 6	83/ & 88/	88/7 & 91/7	88 0
Panmen ..	96/ & 111/	85/ & 89/	81 8	86 0	98 7	88 0
Pitmen ..	108 3	93/ & 98/	83 6	85 0	88 7	88 0
Setters ..	111 0	90/ & 92/6	81/8 & 83/6	91 0	96 7	93 6
Wheelers ..	105 6	84 6	81/8 & 83/6	80 0	91 7	88 0
<b>Brushmaking—</b>						
Bass Broom Drawers	103 6	95 0	98 6	89 0	..	..
Finishers ..	103 6	95 0	98 6	89 0	..	..
Machinists—Boring ..	103 6	95 0	98 6	89 0	..	..
Paint Brush Makers ..	108 6	100 0	98 6	93 0	..	..
<b>Candle Making—</b>						
Acidifiers ..	87 6	85 0	85 0	82 0	..	..
General Hands ..	84 0	79 0	81 0	76 0	81 I	..
Glycerine Distillers ..	91 0	85 0	81 0	82 0	91 I	..
Moulders ..	91 0	85 0	85 0	82 0	90 I	..
Stillmen ..	94 0	85 0	85 0	82 0	..	..
<b>Cardboard Box Makers—</b>						
Gullotine and other Cutters ..	91/ to 97/	89/ to 95/	85/ to 91/	86/ to 92/	86/ to 92/	86/ to 92/
Other Adults ..	80 0	79 0	75 0	76 0	76 0	76 0
<b>Coachmaking (Road)—</b>						
Bodymakers ..	108/ & 111/	106/ & 109/	105 0	103/ & 106/	105 I	100/ & 103/
Labourers ..	81 0	79 0	84 0	76 0	81 I	76 0
Painters ..	108 0	106 0	105 0	87/6 to 106/	105 I	100 0
Smiths ..	112 0	110 0	105 0	107 0	105 I	104 0
Trimmers ..	108 0	106 0	105 0	103 0	105 I	100 0
Wheelmaking Ma- chinists ..	105 0	103 0	105 0	100/ & 106/	105 I	100 0
Wheelwrights ..	105 0	103 0	105 0	100 0	105 I	100 0
<b>Fellmongering—</b>						
Bate Hands ..	86 0	84 0	85 6	76 6	..	..
Green Hands ..	86 0	84 0	82 6	76 6	..	..
Limepit Men ..	86 0	84 0	85/6 & 88/6	76 6	..	..
Machinists ..	89 0	87 0	82/6 to 91/6	76 6	..	..
Soakhole Men ..	89 0	87 0	88 6	76 6	..	..
Wool Sorters ..	99 0	97 0	88 6	76 6	..	..

(a) Piece-work rates.

## SECTION V.—continued.

## GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Gas Making and Supply—</b>						
Coke Trimmers ..	97 6	88 0	81 0	..	81 1	..
Gas Fitters ..	124 0	117 8	116 6	109 0	118 0	93 0
Labourers ..	86 0	79 0	81 0	79 0	81 1	76 0
Mainlayers ..	100 9	100 7	92 0	106/ & 109/ to 115/	93 1	93 0
Metermakers ..	106 0	106 0	..	109/ to 115/	105 1	93 0
Meter Testers ..	100 9	94 0	..	97 0	..	..
Service Layers ..	100 9	100 7	92 0	109 0	96 1	93 0
Stokers ..	104 0	99/9 & 103/9	106/ & 108/	95/ & 97/	90 1	94 0
<b>Glassfoundry—</b>						
Furnacemen ..	92 6	91 0	87 0	87 6	98 0	..
Labourers ..	83 6	82 0	81 0	78 6	89 0	..
Lehrmen ..	187 0	185 6	184 6	182 0	89 0	..
Sorters ..	86 0	84 6	83 6	81 0	91 6	..
<b>Glass Working and Glazing</b>						
Bevellers ..	108 10	101 0	104 0	98 0	102 1	98 0
Cutters and Glaziers ..	107 0	101 0	98 0	98 0	..	..
Lead Light Glaziers ..	107 0	101 0	..	98 0	105 1	..
Silverers ..	108 10	101 0	104 0	98 0	102 1	..
<b>Jewellery, Clock and Watchmaking—</b>						
Chainmakers ..	101/ & 103/6	95 0	93 0	109 1 0	105 1	..
Engravers ..	103 6	100 0	93/ & 96/	109 0	105 1	..
Mounters ..	101 0	95 0	93/ & 96/	109 0	105 1	..
Setters ..	103 6	95 0	96 0	109 0	105 1	..
Watch and Clock- makers and Repairers	107 0	100/ to 100/	98 6	109 0	106 1	..
<b>Masonry—Marble and Stone—</b>						
Carvers ..	155 2	141 1	125 8	140 11	116 7	..
Machinists— Carborundum ..	128 6	95 0	125 8	104/3 to 115/3	116 7	..
Other ..	105 2	107 0	125 8	104/3 to 115/3	116 7	..
Masons ..	128 6	113 11	125 8	115 3	116 7	106 0
<b>Paper Bag Making—</b>						
Guillotine Cutters ..	92 0	91 0	87 0	88 0	88 0	88 0
Machinists ..	97 0	95 0	91 0	92 0	92 0	92 0
<b>Paper Making—</b>						
Beatermen ..	106/ & 108/	90 0	..	..	..	..
Breakermen ..	84 0	73 0	..	..	..	..
Guillotine Men ..	84 0	72 0	..	..	..	..
Machinists ..	99/ & 111/	93 0	..	..	..	..
Ragboilermen ..	93 0	72 0	..	..	..	..
Other Adults ..	84 0	69 0	..	..	..	..
<b>Potteries—General—</b>						
Burners—Head ..	96 0	88 0	89 0	..	..	82 0
Hollow-ware Pressers ..	101 0	83 0	81 8	..	..	82 0
Sanitary Pressers ..	107 0	84 0	81 8	..	..	82 0
Throwers—1st Class ..	107 0	90 0	100 0	..	..	85 0
<b>Potteries—Pipemaking—</b>						
Burners—Head ..	101 0	88 0	95 0	91 6	95 1	82 0
Drawers ..	96 6	82 0	81 8	91 6	81 1	..
Moulders ..	101 6	78 0	81 8	..	95 1	76/ & 79/
Mould Makers ..	96 6	90 0	83 6	91 6	93 2	..
Setters ..	98 6	86 0	81 8	..	87/1 & 94/6	80 6
<b>Quarrying—</b>						
Borers— Hand or Machine ..	100 10	95 3	90 2	91 6	89 10	84 4
Dressers ..	109 8	102 3	84 2	85 6	..	81 7
Facemen ..	102 8	98 3	90 2	85 6	..	76 0
Hammermen ..	98/6 & 101/	102 3	90 2	85/6 to 88/6	89 10	81 7
Machine Feeders ..	104 6	95 3	85/7 & 89/8	85 6	95 7	78 10
Quarrymen ..	109 8	..	93 10	85 6	89 10	93 6

## SECTION V.—continued.

## GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Rubber Working—						
Calendar Hands ..	<sup>6</sup> 103/ & 108/	<sup>6</sup> 101/ & 106/	<sup>6</sup> 97/ & 101/	..	..	..
Cycle Tyre Makers ..	<sup>6</sup> 85 0	<sup>6</sup> 83 0	..	..	..	..
Dough Mixers ..	<sup>6</sup> 85 0	<sup>6</sup> 83 0	<sup>6</sup> 93 6	..	..	..
Hosemakers ..	<sup>6</sup> 87/ & 94/	<sup>6</sup> 85/ & 92/	<sup>6</sup> 93 6	..	..	..
Mechanical Lathe						
Hands ..	<sup>6</sup> 87/ & 91/6	<sup>6</sup> 85/ & 89/6	<sup>6</sup> 93 6	..	..	..
Mill Hands ..	<sup>6</sup> 81/ & 94/	<sup>6</sup> 79/ & 92/	<sup>6</sup> 81 0	..	..	..
Spreaders ..	<sup>6</sup> 88/ & 94/	<sup>6</sup> 86/ & 92/	<sup>6</sup> 93 6	..	..	..
Surgical Packing, and other Makers ..	<sup>6</sup> 87/ & 96/	<sup>6</sup> 85/ & 94/	<sup>6</sup> 88/6 & 93/6	..	..	..
Tyre Moulders ..	<sup>6</sup> 91 6	<sup>6</sup> 89 6	<sup>6</sup> 88 6	..	..	..
Saddlery and Harness- making—						
Harness makers ..	<sup>6</sup> 100 0	<sup>6</sup> 100 0	<sup>6</sup> 100 0	93 0	100 4	<sup>6</sup> 100 0
Saddlers ..	<sup>6</sup> 100 0	<sup>6</sup> 100 0	100 0	93 0	100 4	<sup>6</sup> 100 0
Sail Making—						
Sailmakers ..	<sup>6</sup> 100 0	100 0	<sup>6</sup> 100 0	86 0	..	<sup>6</sup> 100 0
Ship Building—						
Carpenters and Joiners	<sup>6</sup> 117 4	<sup>6</sup> 117 4	<sup>6</sup> 117 4	<sup>6</sup> 117 4	<sup>6</sup> 117 4	<sup>6</sup> 117 4
Dockers ..	<sup>6</sup> 113 8	<sup>6</sup> 113 8	<sup>6</sup> 113 8	<sup>6</sup> 113 8	<sup>6</sup> 113 8	<sup>6</sup> 113 8
Painters ..	<sup>6</sup> 113 8	<sup>6</sup> 113 8	<sup>6</sup> 113 8	<sup>6</sup> 113 8	<sup>6</sup> 113 8	<sup>6</sup> 113 8
Shipwrights ..	<sup>6</sup> 133 10	<sup>6</sup> 133 10	<sup>6</sup> 133 10	<sup>6</sup> 133 10	<sup>6</sup> 133 10	<sup>6</sup> 133 10
Soap Making—						
General Hands ..	<sup>6</sup> 84 0	<sup>6</sup> 79 0	<sup>6</sup> 81 0	<sup>6</sup> 76 0	81 1	76 0
Mixers ..	<sup>6</sup> 84 0	<sup>6</sup> 85 0	<sup>6</sup> 81 0	<sup>6</sup> 82 0	88 1	..
Soap Makers ..	<sup>6</sup> 106 0	<sup>6</sup> 89 6	<sup>6</sup> 81 0	<sup>6</sup> 86 6	86 1	101 0
Tanning and Currying—						
Beamsmen ..	<sup>6</sup> 91 0	<sup>6</sup> 91 0	<sup>6</sup> 91 0	<sup>6</sup> 91 0	<sup>6</sup> 91 0	<sup>6</sup> 91 0
Curriers ..	<sup>6</sup> 98 0	<sup>6</sup> 98 0	<sup>6</sup> 98 0	<sup>6</sup> 98 0	<sup>6</sup> 98 0	<sup>6</sup> 98 0
Japanners or Enam- ellers ..	<sup>6</sup> 88 6	<sup>6</sup> 88 6	<sup>6</sup> 88 6	<sup>6</sup> 88 6	<sup>6</sup> 88 6	<sup>6</sup> 88 6
Linemens and Yardmen	<sup>6</sup> 80 0	<sup>6</sup> 80 0	<sup>6</sup> 80 0	<sup>6</sup> 80 0	<sup>6</sup> 80 0	<sup>6</sup> 80 0
Machinists—						
Fleshing ..	<sup>6</sup> 91 0	<sup>6</sup> 91 0	<sup>6</sup> 91 0	<sup>6</sup> 91 0	<sup>6</sup> 91 0	<sup>6</sup> 91 0
Scouring ..	<sup>6</sup> 82 0	<sup>6</sup> 82 0	<sup>6</sup> 82 0	<sup>6</sup> 82 0	<sup>6</sup> 82 0	<sup>6</sup> 82 0
Splitting ..	<sup>6</sup> 96 0	<sup>6</sup> 96 0	<sup>6</sup> 96 0	<sup>6</sup> 96 0	<sup>6</sup> 96 0	<sup>6</sup> 95 0
Unhairing ..	<sup>6</sup> 85 6	<sup>6</sup> 85 6	<sup>6</sup> 85 6	<sup>6</sup> 85 6	<sup>6</sup> 85 6	<sup>6</sup> 85 6
Rollers and Strikers ..	<sup>6</sup> 87 6	<sup>6</sup> 87 6	<sup>6</sup> 87 6	<sup>6</sup> 87 6	<sup>6</sup> 87 6	<sup>6</sup> 87 6
Tablemen ..	<sup>6</sup> 85 6	<sup>6</sup> 85 6	<sup>6</sup> 85 6	<sup>6</sup> 85 6	<sup>6</sup> 85 6	<sup>6</sup> 85 6
Tent and Tarpaulin Making—						
Cutters ..	<sup>6</sup> 94/ & 100/	94/ & 100/	<sup>6</sup> 94/ & 100/	86 0	..	<sup>6</sup> 94/ & 100/
Machinists ..	<sup>6</sup> 94/ & 100/	94/ & 100/	<sup>6</sup> 94/ & 100/	86 0	..	<sup>6</sup> 94/ & 100/
Sewers—Hand ..	<sup>6</sup> 94/ & 100/	94/ & 100/	<sup>6</sup> 94/ & 100/	86 0	..	<sup>6</sup> 94/ & 100/
Tent Makers ..	<sup>6</sup> 94/ & 100/	94/ & 100/	<sup>6</sup> 94/ & 100/	86 0	86 1	<sup>6</sup> 94/ & 100/

## GROUP VII.—BUILDING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Building—						
Bricklayers—						
Surface ..	<sup>6</sup> 121 0	<sup>6</sup> 121 0	<sup>3</sup> 106 7	<sup>6</sup> 109 0	<sup>6</sup> 116 1	<sup>6</sup> 106 0
Sewer and Tunnel ..	<sup>6</sup> 126 6	<sup>6</sup> 129 3	<sup>3</sup> 106 7	<sup>6</sup> 109 0	<sup>6</sup> 116 1	<sup>6</sup> 112/ & 118/6
Carpenters ..	<sup>6</sup> 121 0	<sup>6</sup> 111 6	<sup>3</sup> 106 7	<sup>6</sup> 111 0	<sup>6</sup> 115 1	<sup>6</sup> 111 6
Labouring (Builders) ..	<sup>6</sup> 87 0	<sup>6</sup> 85 0	<sup>6</sup> 89 11	<sup>6</sup> 82 0	<sup>6</sup> 94 0	82 0
Lathers ..	<sup>6</sup> 121 0	<sup>6</sup> 104 6	<sup>3</sup> 106 7	(a)	..	82 0
Metal Cellars ..	<sup>6</sup> 115 6	..	<sup>3</sup> 106 7	..	..	82 0
Masons ..	<sup>6</sup> 128 6	<sup>6</sup> 111 11	<sup>3</sup> 106 7	<sup>6</sup> 115 3	<sup>6</sup> 106 7	<sup>6</sup> 106 0
Painters, Paperhangers	<sup>6</sup> 114 4	<sup>6</sup> 108 2	<sup>3</sup> 106 7	<sup>6</sup> 101 8	<sup>6</sup> 116 7	<sup>6</sup> 106 0
Signwriters ..	<sup>6</sup> 114 4	<sup>6</sup> 108 2	<sup>3</sup> 106 7	<sup>6</sup> 101 8	<sup>6</sup> 115 1	<sup>6</sup> 102 6

(a) Mainly piece-work.

## SECTION V.—continued.

## GROUP VII.—BUILDING—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Building—continued—</b>						
Plasterers—						
Surface ..	°121 0	°115 6	°106 7	°109 0	116 11	°102 6
Sewer or Tunnel ..	°126 6	°128 4	°112/7 to 115/7	°109 0	°116/11 to 122/11	°108/6 & 114/6
Plumbers, Gasfitters..	°125 0	°117 8	°106 7	°107 3	°117 0	°100/ & 122/
Slaters ..	°125 4	°115 6	°106 7	(a)	..	°94 5
Tilers ..	°125 4	°110 0	°106 7	°109 0	°102 4	°94 5
Tuckpointers ..	°121 0	°110 0	°106 7	°109 0	(a)	..
<b>Water Supply and</b>						
<b>Sewerage—</b>						
Concrete Workers ..	°86/10 to 102/5	°104 2	°92/ to 101/	76/ to 81/6	°87 1	..
Labourers ..	°84/ to 95/1	°81/8 & 84/8	°83 0	74 0	°81 1	..
Miners—Sewer ..	°109/7 to 129/	°91/8 to 97/2	°108 6	77/ & 81/	°90 1	..
Pipe-Jointers and Setters ..	°95/1 to 100/	°93 8	°86/6 & 91/4	77/ & 81/6	°90/1 & 99/1	..

## GROUP VIII.—MINING.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Coal Mining—</b>						
Blacksmiths ..	°127 6	°103/7 & 111/5	°121/6 to 133/6	(b)	105 1	°121 6
Bracemen ..	°118 6	°87/7 & 93/11	°107/ to 124/6	..	..	..
Carpenters ..	°116/ to 131/6	°102/8 & 110/5	°117/6 to 133/6	..	..	°110 0
Deputies ..	°118/ to 151/	°111/5 & 119/9	°124/6 to 141/6	..	..	°128 0
Engine Drivers—						
Winding and Loco.	°124/ to 143/	°109/7 & 117/10	°121/6 to 125/	..	°117/7 to 124/5	°109/6 to 121/6
Other ..	°114/ to 129/	°106/10 & 114/7	°116/ to 144/	..	..	..
Labourers—						
Surface ..	°110 6	°78 2	°104/ to 124/	..	°85 0	°105 6
Underground ..	°110 6	°83/5 & 89/10	°104/6 to 121/	..	°93 7	°109 6
Miners—						
Machine ..	(a)	(a)	°121/6 to 138/6	..	100/2 to 110/2	..
Manual—Dry Work	(a)	(a)	(a)	..	102 5	(a)
Platmen or Banksmen	°110/ to 117/6	°100/10 & 108/8	°104/6 to 121/	..	°90 11	°105 6
Shftmen—						
Dry Work ..	°110/6 to 136/	°100/10 & 108/8	°117/3 to 133/6	..	102 5	°119/6 to 123/6
Wet Work ..	°110/6 to 136/	°107/8 & 115/6	°127/3 to 143/6	..	..	..
Shotfirers ..	°141/ to 144/	°114/2 & 122/10	°117/3 to 133/6	..	°102 5	..
Timbermen..	°110/6 to 136/	°100/10 & 108/8	°117/3 to 133/6	..	°102 5	°123 0
Weighmen ..	°117/6	°105 5	..	..	..	°117 6
Wheelers ..	°100/ to 115/	°93/6 & 100/5	°107/6 to 126/	..	°95/5 & 100/11	°105 6
<b>Gold and Other Mining</b>						
(except Coal)—						
Battery Feeders ..	° & 89 0	°73/ to 81/	°91/4 to 96/10	(c)	°100 2	73 0
Bracemen ..	° & 91 0	°77/ to 86/	°96/10 to 102/4	..	°109 2	°74 0

(a) Piece-work rates. (b) Not mined. (c) South Australia—Very little gold is produced and difficulty is experienced in obtaining reliable information.

## SECTION V.—continued.

## GROUP VIII.—MINING—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Gold and Other Mining (except Coal)— <i>contd.</i>						
Engine Drivers— Stationary ..	£ 96/6 to 102/6	£88/ to 104/	£95/ to 116/	..	108/6 to 114/11	80/ to 99/
Winding and Loco.	£ 108/ & 111/	£91/ to 107/	£105/ to 127/	..	111/6 & 123/11	88/ to 102/
Firemen ..	£ 92/ to 96/6	£82/ to 88/	£90/ to 107/10	..	106/2 & 112/2	78 0
Labourers ..	£ 87 0	£75/ to 79/	£91/4 to 96/10	..	£100/2 & 106/2	£73 0
Miners— Machine ..	£ 98/6 & 101/6	£77/ to 102/	£105/ to 110/6	..	£112/2 to 120/2	£84/ & 87/
Manual— Dry Work ..	£ 98/6 & 101/6	£81/ to 98/	£96/10 to 102/4	..	£108/2 to 115/2	£78/ & 81/
Wet Work ..	£ 98/6 & 101/6	£87/ to 104/	£105/ to 111/6	..	£117/2 to 124/2	£78/ & 81/
Platmen ..	£ 91 0	£77/ to 89/	£96/10 to 102/4	..	£109 2	£74 0
Shaft Sinkers— Dry Work ..	£ 100 6	£87/ to 102/	£96/10 to 111/6	..	£104/10 & 120/2	£84 0
Wet Work ..	£ 100 6	£93/ to 105/	£105/ to 111/6	..	£113/10 & 119/2	£109 9
Timbermen ..	£ 100/ & 104/6	£82/6 to 98/6	£105/ to 110/6	..	£84/10 & 120/2	81/ & 87/

## GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Railways—						
Engine Drivers (Loco.)—						
1st Class ..	£127 0	£126 0	£119 9	£123 0	£127 1	£122 0
2nd Class ..	£121 0	£120 0	£114 3	£117 0	£119 1	£116 0
3rd Class ..	£115 0	£114 0	£107 10	£111 0	£111 1	£110 0
4th Class ..	£109 0	£108 0	£101 5	£105 0	£108 1	£104 0
5th Class ..	£103 0	£102 0	£101 5	£99 0	£108 1	£98 0
Firemen—						
1st Class ..	£100 0	£96 0	£95 0	£93 0	£102 1	£92 0
2nd Class ..	£97 0	£87/ & 90/	£89 6	£87 0	£96 1	£86 0
3rd Class ..	£91 0	£84 0	£89 6	£81/ & 83/	£91 1	£80/ & 83/
Guards—						
1st Class ..	£95/ to 111/6	£106/6 & £109/6	£111 6	£103/6 to 106/6	£105 1	£100 0
2nd Class ..	£92/ to 107/6	£102/ & £105/	£106 0	£99/ to 102/	£102 1	£94 0
3rd Class ..	£86/ to 95/	£87/ to 96/	£95 11	£81/ to 83/	£99 1	£86 0
Porters ..	£83/ to 104/	£78/ to 96/	£82/2 & 85/10	£95/ & 99/6	£81 1	£73 0
Shunters—						
1st Class ..	£92/ to 128/	£105/ to 111/	£111 6	£97/6 to 100/6	£99 1	£88/ to 98/
2nd Class ..	£89/ to 122/	£100/6 to 104/6	£104 2	£90/ to 93/	£96 1	..
3rd Class ..	£86/ to 107/	£93/ & 96/	£100 6	..	£90 1	..
Ordinary ..	£86 0	£84/ to 90/	£92 3	..	£90 1	£85 0
Signalmen— Special ..	..	£114 0	£106/ & 114/3	£97/6 to 106/6	£108 1	..
1st Class ..	£116 0	£105 0	£104 2	£94 6	£99 1	£85 0
2nd Class ..	£110 0	£99 0	£99 7	£91 6	£93 1	£82 0
3rd Class ..	£105 0	£94 6	£93 2	£85 6	£87 1	..
4th Class ..	£89/ to 101/	£90 0	£88 7	£82 6	£84 1	..



SECTION V.—*continued.*GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Tramways (Electric and Cable)—</b>						
Car Washers or Cleaners	£81 0	87 0	£88 7	79/ & 82/	..	78 0
Conductors—						
1st Year ..	£87 0	87 0	£84 0	81/ & 83/	£83 1	76 6
2nd Year ..	£90 0	90 0	£84/ & 89/	83 0	£93 1	79 6
3rd Year ..	£93 0	93 0	£89/ & 99/	87/ to 92/	..	82 6
Horse Drivers	£87 0	88/ to 95/	£88 0	..	..	..
Labourers ..	£81 0	81 0	£81 0	77 0	£81 1	78 0
Maintenance Men	£84/ to 89/	90 0	£88 7	80/ & 83/	£87 1	81 0
Motormen or Gripmen—						
1st Year ..	£99 0	87 0	£84 0	83 0	£93 1	78 0
2nd Year ..	£99 0	90 0	£84/ & 89/	86 0	£93 1	81 0
3rd Year ..	£99 0	93 0	£89/ & 99/	89/ to 93/6	£93 1	84 0
Overhead Wiremen—						
Leading ..	£111 0	107 0	£120 1	90/ to 98/6	£99 1	101 0
Other ..	£90/ to 117/	101 0	£105 1	83/ to 91/6	..	95 0
Pitmen ..	£95 0	99 0	..	83/ to 89/	£93 1	90 0
Signalmen ..	£102/6 to 108/6	96 0	£95/ & 99/	89/ to 98/6	..	..
Track Cleaners	£81 0	87 0	£84 0	80/ & 83/	£96 1	78 0

## GROUP X.—OTHER LAND TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Carrying—Merchandise—</b>						
Carriers—						
One Horse ..	£92 0	83 0	£88 0	80 0	90 7	80 0
Two Horses ..	£97 0	88 0	£93 0	83 0	95 7	85 0
Corporation Carters—						
One Horse ..	£96 0	£83 0	£88 0	80 0	£89 1	80 0
Two Horses ..	£102 6	£88 0	£93 0	83 0	£94 1	85 0
Jinkers—						
One Horse ..	£92 0	89 0	£95 0	86 0	98 7	86 0
Two Horses ..	£97 0	93 0	£100 0	91 0	103 7	91 0
Sanitary Carters	£100/ & 105/	£86/ to 97/	£89 0	83/ to 93/	£99 1	83/ to 94/
Stable Hands	£91/6 & 96/6	81 0	£81 0	77 0	89 7	78 0
Motor Lorries and Wagons—						
Under 3 tons ..	£94/ to 104/	88/ to 92/	£90/ to 98/	83/ to 87/	95/7 to 99/7	89 0
3 tons or over ..	£108/ & 112/	95 0	£103/ to 108/	91 0	103 7	92 0
<b>Lift Attendants—</b>						
Goods ..	£87 0	83 6	£83 0	*58/6 to 90/	91 5	..
Passenger ..	£87 0	83 6	£81/ & 83/	*58/6 to 90/	£88 11	..

## SECTION V.—continued.

## GROUP XI.—SHIPPING, WHARF LABOUR, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
<b>Waterside Working—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Wharf Labourers per hour <i>a</i>	2 9½	2 9½	2 9½ to 3 5½	2 9½	2 9½	2 9½
<b>Passenger Vessels—Interstate <i>b</i>—</b>						
Bakers per month			305/6 to 385/6			
Barmen "			295/6d			
Butchers "			325/6 to 365/6c			
Cooks—						
Chief "			435/6 to 465/6c			
Second "			355/6c			
Third "			295/6c			
Ships "			345/6c			
Pantrymen "			235/6 to 335/6c			
Scullerymen "			275/6c			
Stewards—						
Chief Saloon "			385/6d			
Second "			375/6d			
Second Saloon "			345/6d			
Fore Cabin "			335/6d			
Bedroom "			285/6 to 295/6d			
and Other "						
<b>All Vessels—Interstate <i>b</i>—</b>						
A.B. Seamen per month			328/			
Boatswains "			348/			
Donkeymen "			385/			
Firemen "			368/			
Greasers "			368/			
Lamp Trimmers "			348/			
Fuel Trimmers "			328/			
<b>Marine Engineers <i>b e g</i>—</b>		<i>Vessels (Steam).</i>		<i>Vessels (Steam).</i>		
Chief per month		<i>Under 100 N.H.P.</i>		<i>100 N.H.P. and over.</i>		
Second "		634/ to 689/		719/ to 1099/		
Third "		529/		529/ to 719/		
Fourth "		474/		474/ to 599/		
5th, 6th, 7th "		..		414/6 to 539/		
and 8th "		..		404/6		
<b>Merchant Service <i>b f g</i>—</b>		<i>Seagoing</i>		<i>Seagoing</i>		
Masters per month		<i>Passenger Vessels.</i>		<i>Cargo Vessels.</i>		
Officers—		<i>125 tons or under. Over 10,000 tons.</i>		<i>60 tons or under. Over 10,000 tons.</i>		
Chief "		644/6	1759/	556/6	1319/	
Second "		504/6	719/	444/6	639/	
Third "		444/6	639/	404/6	579/	
Fourth and Fifth "		..	549/	..	509/	
		..	404/6	..	404/6	

*a* Rate of wage quoted is for other than special cargo. *b* Rates of wage quoted are in addition to victualling and accommodation. *c* Not more than 8 hours per day. *d* Not more than 10 hours per day when at sea, 9 per day when in intermediate ports, not more than 8 per day when in terminal ports. *e* Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified according to nominal horsepower of vessels. *f* Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified for interstate vessels, and for vessels within a State according to tonnage; the lowest and highest classes for interstate passenger and cargo vessels are here given. *g* *Marine Engineers*—Not more than 8 hours per day. *Masters and Officers*—Ordinary length of duty in a day at sea or in port or partly at sea and partly at port shall be 8 hours. *h* Not more than 8 hours per day.

## GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
<b>Farming <i>c</i>—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
General Hands <i>a b</i> ..	25/ to 30/	15/ to 25/	15/ to 30/	15/ to 25/	25/ to 40/	30/ to 42/
Harvesters <i>a b</i> ..	30/ to 55/	30/ to 40/	30/ to 60/	30/ to 50/	35/ to 50/	42/ to 60/
Milkers <i>a b</i> ..	25/ to 35/	20/ to 25/	15/ to 20/	15/ to 25/	25/ to 40/	25/ to 30/
Ploughmen <i>a b</i> ..	27/6 to 32/6	20/ to 25/	20/ to 30/	20/ to 30/	35/ to 50/	31/ to 37/
<b>Chaffcutting—</b>						
Feeders (Travelling plant)	93/6 & 96/6	94 6	..	..	84/2 to 114/8	1390 0
Feeders (Stationary mill)	93/6 & 96/6	88 6	..	..	84/2 to 114/8	1390 0

For footnotes, see next page.

## SECTION V.—continued.

## GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
<b>Gardening—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Gardeners .. ..	°96 6	° & 78/10 to 84/4	°90 8	77/ & 80/	87 1	77 0
Labourers .. ..	°81 0	° & 78/10	°81 0	4 0	81 1	74 4
Nurserymen .. ..	°96 6	°83/ & 93/	90 8	80/ & 86/	93 1	77 0
Labourers .. ..	°81 0	°76 6	81 0	74 0	81 0	74 4
<b>Pastoral Workers d—</b>						
Cooks b .. ..	114 0	114 0	°147/8 & 157/8	114 0	106 0	114 c
Shearers .. per 100	35 0	35 0	38 0	35 0	33 0	35 0
Shed Hands b .. ..	94 0	94 0	°85 6	94 0	95 0	94 0
Wool Pressers b .. ..	98 0	98 0	°104 6	98 0	104 6	98 0
<b>Rural Workers—</b>						
Fruit Harvesters .. ..	77 0	77 0	°78 0	59/2 to 62/11	..	..

a Ruling or predominant rates, see note at commencement of table. b Rates of wage quoted are in addition to board and lodging provided. c Hours in the farming industry vary considerably, and no reliable particulars can be published. d Shearers' and woolpressers' hours are 44 per week; shed hands' hours are the same as shearers with such additional time as may be necessary to finish picking up fleeces, &c. Should the time engaged picking up, &c., exceed 30 minutes per day, all time thereafter must be paid as overtime. The hours of cooks are not regulated.

## GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage specified for employees in Clubs, Hotels, and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where Board and Lodging are not provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Cooks (Hotels and Restaurants)—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Chefs .. ..	°103/6 to 196/	95/6 to 125/	°108/ & 113/	99/ to 124/	105 5	72/5 to 127/11
Cooks—Second .. ..	°93/ to 146/	89/6 to 107/6	°98 0	84/ to 94/	90 0	57/7 to 102/
Cooks—Third .. ..	°90/ to 116/	89 6	°98 0	84 0	83 3	57/7 to 82/4
Kitchenmen .. ..	°83 0	83 6	°85 6	74 0	81 1	64 2
<b>Hairdressing—</b>						
Hairdressers .. ..	°102 0	97 6	°96 0	99 0	101 1	80/ to 105/
<b>Hotels—</b>						
Barmen .. ..	°90 6	°88 0	°87 0	91 0	105 1	88 0
Billiard Markers .. ..	°81 0	°83 6	°83 0	74 0	82 7	64 2
Handymen .. ..	°81 0	°83 6	°83 0	74 0	81 1	52/7 & 58/8
Lift Attendants .. ..	°81 0	85 6	°83 0	78 9	83 7	55/11 & 64/2
Porters—Day Work .. ..	°81 0	°83 6	°83 0	76 6	81 1	55 11
Porters—Night Work .. ..	°86 0	°83 6	°83 0	76 6	83 3	64 2
Waiters—Head .. ..	°90 0	°89 0	°83 0	84/ & 87/	..	82/4 & 95/6
Waiters—Other .. ..	°83 0	°83 6	°83 0	79 6	82 3	63/1 to 75/8
<b>Restaurants—</b>						
Pantrymen .. ..	°81/ & 83/6	78 0	°85 6	76 0	81 1	64 2
Waiters .. ..	°81/ to 86/	78 0	°85 6	79/6 & 80/6	81 1	63/1 to 75/8

## GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Factory Engine Driving—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Engine Drivers (Stationary)—						
1st Class .. ..	94/6 to 97/6	92/6 & 95/6	°108 0	89/6 to 92/6	94/7 & 97/7	88/ to 91/
2nd Class .. ..	91/6 to 94/6	89/6 & 92/6	°100 0	86/6 to 89/6	91/7 & 94/7	85/ to 88/
3rd Class .. ..	88/6 & 93/6	89/6 & 92/6	°92 0	86/6 to 89/6	91/7 & 94/7	85/ to 88/
<b>Firemen—</b>						
1st Class .. ..	91 6	86/6 & 89/6	°90 0	86 6	90 1	82 0
2nd Class .. ..	87/ to 88/6	85/ & 86/	..	82/ to 86/6	87 1	79/ & 81/
Greasers .. ..	85 0	83 0	°90 0	80 0	90 1	79 0
Trimmers .. ..	85 0	83 0	°86 0	80 0	87 1	77 0

SECTION V.—*continued.*GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Municipal—</b>						
Labourers .. ..	°94 6	°81 0	°83 0	74 0	°81 1	°79 0
Street Sweepers ..	°94 6	°86 0	°83 0	74 0	°81 1	°79 0
<b>Shop and Other Assistants</b>						
Boot Salesmen .. ..	°94 6	°100 0	°96 0	86 0	97 10	°80/ to 95/
Chemists' Assistants ..	°109 0	105 6	°107 6	97/ & 107/	97 10	°100 0
Clerks .. ..	°96/ & 97/6	4 & °91/	°96 0	82 6	°88/10 to 100/5	°99 0
Drapery Salesmen ..	°94 6	°101 0	°96 0	88 6	97 10	°85/ to 100/
Furniture Salesmen ..	°97 6	°100 0	°96 0	85 6	97 10	107 0
Grocery Salesmen ..	°96 0	91 0	°96 0	85 0	97 10	1188 0
Hardware Salesmen ..	°88 6	95 6	°96 0	85 6	97 10	101 0
Railway Bookstall Assistants ..	°96 0	1182 6	°96 0	86 0	97 10	90 0
Tobacconists' Assts. ..	°96 0	1191/6 & 101/6	°96 0	84 0	97 10	79 3
<b>Storemen — Packing, Cleaning, &amp;c.—</b>						
Night Watchmen ..	°85/ & 88/6	1°88/6 & 101/	°84 0	80 6	..	80 0
Office Cleaners ..	°87/6 to 97/6	°83 0	°81/ & 86/	74 0	°94 2	76 0
Packers—General ..	°94/6 & 97/6	82 0	°84 0	77 0	97 10	80/ to 82/6
Storemen—General ..	°89/ & 93/	82 0	°84 0	77 0	97 10	80/ to 82/6
<b>Wholesale Grocery—</b>						
Packers .. ..	°90 6	82 0	°86 0	77 0	97 10	80 0
Storemen .. ..	°89 0	82/ to 87/6	°86 0	77 0	97 10	80 0
<b>Wholesale Hardware—</b>						
Packers .. ..	°92/ to 94/	87 0	°86 0	77 0	97 10	51/ to 86/
Storemen .. ..	°89/ to 93/	87 0	°86 0	77 0	97 10	51/ to 86/

## SECTION VI.

## Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Female Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of Each State for a Full Week's Work at 31st December, 1938.

(See Explanatory Note at top of page 153.)

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Biscuit Making—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£46 0	£41 0	£43 0	36 6	£46 2	40 6
<b>Confectionery—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£46 6	47 0	£43 0	37 0	£39/10 to 55/9	46 0
<b>Jam Making and Pre-serving—</b>						
Fillers ...	£48 6	£49 0	£48 6	47 0	£43 9	48 6
Other Adults ..	£42 6	£43 0	£48 6	47 0	£43 9	48 6
<b>Tea Packing—</b>						
Head Women ..	£44 3	52 3	£44/6 to 54/	..	..	..
Other Adults ..	£44 3	45 9	£43 0	41 6	44 3	..
<b>Tobacco Working (Cigars)—</b>						
Ringers ..	£45 0	£48 0	..	..	42 9	..
Wrapper Leaf Strippers	£59 6	£55 6	..	..	42 9	..

## GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Bootmaking—</b>						
Machinists — Wax						
Thread ..	£63 0	£63 0	£63 0	£63 0	..	£63 0
Other Adults ..	£51/ to 55/6	£51/ to 55/6	£51/ to 55/6	£51/ to 55/6	£49 8	£51/ to 55/6
<b>Dressmaking—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£43/6 to 64/	£43/6 to 64/	£43/6 to 64/	£43/6 to 64/	£48/7 to 50/3	£43/6 to 64/
<b>Dyers and Cleaners—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£43/6 to 50/	£43/6 to 50/	£43/6 to 50/	£43/6 to 50/	£58/3	£43/6 to 50/
<b>Hat Making (Straw)—</b>						
Finishers & Machinists	£46 6	£46 6	£46 6	£46 6	..	£46 6
<b>Millinery—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£43/6 to 46/6	£43/6 to 46/6	£43/6 to 46/6	£43/6 to 46/6	£47 0	£43/6 to 46/6
<b>Shirt Making—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£43/6 to 60/	£43/6 to 60/	£43/6 to 60/	£43/6 to 60/	£47/ & 53/6	£43/6 to 60/
<b>Tailoring (Order)—</b>						
Machinists—						
Coat Hands ..	£55 3	£55 3	£55 3	£55 3	£56 8	£55 3
Trousers, Vest Hands	£49 9	£49 9	£49 9	£49 9	£52/6 to 54/8	£49 9
Tailoresses—						
Coat Hands ..	£55 3	£55 3	£55 3	£55 3	£61/8 to 62/9	£55 3
Trousers, Vest Hands	£49 9	£49 9	£49 9	£49 9	£52/6 to 54/8	£49 9
<b>Tailoring (Ready-made)—</b>						
Machinists—						
Coat Hands ..	£52 9	£52 9	£52 9	£52 9	£49 6	£52 9
Trousers, Vest Hands	£47 9	£47 9	£47 9	£47 9	£47 0	£47 9
Tailoresses—						
Coat Hands ..	£52 9	£52 9	£52 9	£52 9	£49 6	£52 9
Trousers, Vest Hands	£47 9	£47 9	£47 9	£47 9	£47 0	£47 9
<b>Textile Working (Woollen Mills)—</b>						
Comb Minders ..	£48 6	£43 6	£44 0	£43 6	£45/3 & 46/9	£43 6
Drawers and Menders	£51/6 & 57/6	£43/6 to 49/6	£47/ to 53/	£43/6 & 49/6	£43/9 & 52/9	£43/6 to 49/6
Warpers ..	£52/6 & 57/6	£45 6	£48/ to 53/	£45 6	£46 3	£45 6
Weavers—Loom ..	£57/6	£46 6	£53 0	£46 6	£47 9	£46 6
Other Adults ..	£48 6	£43 6	£44 0	£43 6	£43 9	£43 6
<b>Underclothing—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£43/6 to 57/	£44/9 to 58/3	£43/6 to 57/	£43/6 to 57/	£48/7 & 50/3	£43/6 to 57/

## SECTION VI.—continued.

## GROUPS I., II., V., AND VI.—PRINTING AND OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Bedding and Furniture—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Bedding Machinists ..	£48 6	£48 6	£48 11	£45 0	£61 9	£45 6
Picture Frame Workers	£53 6	£48 6	..	£47 6	£58 9	£49 6
<b>Bookbinding—</b>						
Folders and Sewers ..	£51/6 & 52/6	£50/6 & 51/6	£48/6 & 49/6	£49/ & 50/	£49/ & 50/	£49/ & 50/
<b>Brush Making—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£52 0	44 0	£45 0	40 0	..	..
<b>Candle and Soap Making—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£47 6	£41 3	£44 0	£37 9	..	26 7
<b>Cardboard Box Making—</b>						
Box Makers ..	£48/6 to 54/6	£47/6 to 53/6	£45/6 to 51/6	£46/ to 52/	£46/ to 52/	£46/ to 52/
Other Adults ..	£43/6 & 48/6	£42/6 & 47/6	£40/6 & 45/6	£41/ & 46/	£41/ & 46/	£41/ & 46/
<b>Jewellery—</b>						
Chainmakers ..	£52/ & 57/	£95 0	£65 0	..	£56 4	..
Gilders ..	£52 0	£87 6	£55 0	10/57 3	£56 4	..
Polishers ..	£52 0	£95 0	£55 0	10/57 3	£56 4	..
Scratch Brushers ..	£52 0	£44 0	£55 0	10/57 3	£56 4	..
<b>Leather Goods—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£50 0	£50 0	£50 0	£38/6 to 45/6	£51 1	£50 0
<b>Paper Making—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£43 6	38 1	..	..	..	..
<b>Paper Bag Making—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£43/6 to 49/6	£42/6 to 48/6	£40/6 to 48/6	£41 to 47/	£41/ to 47/	£41/ to 47/
<b>Potteries—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£43 6	£42 9	£48 0	..	..	..
<b>Printing—</b>						
Jobbing Office Assistants ..	£51 6	£50 6	£48 6	£49 0	£49 0	£49 0
Lithographic Feeders	£50 6	£49 6	£47 6	£48 0	£48 0	£48 0
<b>Rubber Working—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£43 0	£42 6	49 0	..	..	..
<b>Tent and Tarpaulin Making</b>						
Machinists ..	£50 0	£50 0	£50 0	£47 6	£45 9	£50 0

## GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage mentioned herein for employees in Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where Board and Lodging are not provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Hotels—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Barmails ..	£65 0	68 3	£78 0	53 6	101 8	62 0
Housemaids ..	£52 6	55 3	£47 6	45 6	57 10	49 0
Laundresses ..	£58 0	58 3	£53 6	49 6	57 10	52 0
Waitresses—Head ..	£58 6	58 3	£47 6	50 6	..	52 0
„ Other ..	£53 6	54 3	£47 6	45 6	57 10	48 0
<b>Laundries—</b>						
General Hands ..	£45 0	£43 0	£44 0	39 6	49 3	24 0
Machinists—						
Shirt and Collar ..	£47 0	£51 3	£44 0	43 6	52 11	24/ & 30/
Sorters ..	£47 0	£43 0	£44 0	43 6	49 3	24 0
Starchers ..	£45 0	£48 3	£44 0	39 6	49 3	24 0
Washers ..	£45 0	£53/6 to 84/6	£44 0	39 6	57 6	36 0
<b>Office Cleaning—</b>						
Adult Females ..	£52/ & 54/3	£74 5	£58/ to 62/	£42 6	55 5	..
<b>Restaurants—</b>						
Pantry Maids ..	£51 0	46 6	£47 6	40 6	£49 1	49 4
Waitresses ..	£51/ & 54/	46 6	£47 6	42/ & 49/6	£47 2	48/2 & 54/2

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

## GROUP XIV.—SHOP ASSISTANTS, CLERKS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Clerks, &amp;c.—</b>						
Cashiers ..	£50 9	£55 3	£73 0	£6 & £50 0	(a) 60 0	£54 0
Clerical Assistants ..	£50 9	£55 3	£73 0	£6 & £50 0	..	£54 0
<b>Saleswomen—</b>						
Boot .. ..	£60 0	£40/ to 57/6	£58 6	41 6	£54/4 & 59/7	£45 0
Drapery .. ..	£60 0	£52 0	£58 6	85 9	£54/4 & 63/3	£45 0
Fruit and Confectionery	£47 6	42 6	£58 6	41 6	£54 4	50 0
Newsagent and Book-	£60 0	11 35/ to 45/	£58 6	41 6	£54 4	45 0
stall .. ..	£50 9	56/6 to 76/6	£58 6	48 6	£54 4	49 6
Tobacconists ..						

(a) 38 hours, except in special circumstances.



## Section VII.

## Weekly Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour : Australia and Other Countries.

Industry and Occupation.	AUSTRALIA (SYDNEY).				GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (LONDON).				NEW ZEALAND (AUCKLAND).				CANADA (MONTREAL).			
	July, 1914.		31st Dec., 1938.		August, 1914.		31st Dec., 1938.		March, 1914.		31st Dec., 1938.		Sept., 1914.		31st Dec., 1938.	
	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.
	<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>		\$		\$	
<b>Furniture—</b>																
Cabinet Makers .. ..	60 0	48	107 0	44	39 5	46½ to 54	82 3	47	60 8½	47	110 0	40	20.41	60	15.40 to 24.00	40 to 52
Upholsterers .. ..	60 0	48	107 0	44	38 8	46½ to 54	82 3	47	60 8½	47	110 0	40	20.41	60	15.40 to 17.60	44
French Polishers .. ..	60 0	48	107 0	44	37 5	46½ to 54	82 3	47	60 8½	47	110 0	40	20.41	60	15.40 to 17.60	44
<b>Sawmilling—</b>																
Machinists, Planing .. ..	63 0	48	91 0 and 100 0	44	..	..	..	..	57 0	47	103 4	40	14.58	55	13.75 to 22.0	47 to 55
„ Shaping .. ..	69 0	48	105 0	44	..	..	..	..	45 0	47	103 4	40	16.56	55		
Sawyers, Band or Jig .. ..	68 0	48	95 0 to 108 0	44	..	..	..	..	48 0	47	96 8	40	16.56	55	16.92 to 17.28	47 to 54
„ Circular .. ..	54 0 to 60 0	48	95 0 and 102 0	44	..	..	..	..	54 0	47	112 6	40	14.99	55	15.50	47
<b>Engineering, and Metal Working—</b>																
Fitters and Turners .. ..	70 0	48	108 0 and 111 0	44	38 11	53 to 54	70 11	47	64 7	47	110 0	40	..	..	20.90 to 34.00	40 to 55

Patternmakers .. ..	74 0	48	120 0	44	42 1	53 to 54	71 3	47	69 0	49	110 0	40	21.38	55	28.60 to 36.00	44 to 50
Moulders (Iron) .. ..	68 0 and 72 0 to 60 0	48	90 0 to 111 0 to 101 6	44	41 8	53 to 54	70 11	47	64 7½	47	110 0	40	18.95	60	22.00 to 42.00 to 24.00 to	40 to 48
Tinsmiths .. ..	60 0	48	101 6	44	..	..	..	..	62 8	47	110 0	40	14.30	54	31.20 to 21.60 to	48 to 54
Milling (Flour)— Millers (shift) .. ..	63 0 and 70 0 to 51 0	48	97 0 to 107 6 to 85 0	44	..	..	71 0 and 73 0	42	48 0	48	99 4 (a)	40	18.95	60	32.50 to 18.40 to	40 to 60
Packermen .. ..	51 0	48	85 0	44	..	..	..	..	48 0	48	95 4	40	14.58	60	24.00 to 21.60 to	48 to 50
Bootmakers .. ..	60 0	48	104 0	44	30 0	52½	51 to 58 0	45	52 6	45	91 8	40	22.60	55	36.00 to 30.00 to	44 to 48
Tailoring (Ready-made)— Cutters .. ..	65 0	48	101 0	44	..	..	..	..	52 0 to 60 0	45	102 6	40	17.50 to 19.44 to 14.58 to	49	30.25 to 28.50 to	44 to 45
Pressers (Coat) .. ..	60 0	48	98 0	44	..	..	..	..	55 0	45	92 6	40	14.58	49	32.00 to 31.50 to	45 to 48
Trimmers .. ..	65 0	48	98 0	44	..	..	..	..	52 0 to 60 0	45	92 6	40	14.58	49	36.00 to 31.50 to	48 to 50
Bookbinding— Bookbinders .. ..	65 0	48	108 0	44	33 11	50 to 51 to 50 to 51	80 0	45	65 0	48	107 6	40	17.50	48	38.00 to 37.00 to	44 to 48
Paper Rulers .. ..	65 0 to 77 6	48	108 0	44	33 11	50 to 51 to 51	80 0	45	65 0	48	107 6	40	19.44	48	45.00 to 40.00 to	40 to 44
Printing (Daily Newspapers)— Compositors (Day work) .. ..	88 0	48	131 0	44	35 8	50	89 0	45	65 0	48	107 6	40	21.30	48	40.00 to 35.20 to	44 to 48
Readers (Day work) .. ..	80 0	48	139 6	44	..	..	..	..	..	..	112 6	40	17.50	48	39.60 to 30.80	44 to 48
Compositors (Jobbing Offices) .. ..	65 0	48	108 0 to 117 0 to 117 0	44	35 8	50 to 51 to ..	89 0	45	65 0	48	107 6	40	17.98	48	44.00 to 40.00 to	40 to 44
Linotype Operators .. ..	80 0	48	117 0	44	..	..	..	..	74 0	48	115 0	40	..	..	40.00 to 35.20 to	44 to 48
Building— Bricklayers .. ..	78 0	48	121 0	44	40 7	49½	77 0	44	70 6	47	115 0	40	28.75	54	39.60 to 30.80	44 to 48
Carpenters .. ..	72 0	48	121 0	44	39 11	49½	77 0	44	64 7½	47	112 6	40	23.61	54	44.00 to 40.00 to	40 to 44
Labourers—Carpenters .. ..	60 6	44	87 0	44	27 0	49½	57 9	44	51 4	47	93 4	40	15.63	54	44.00 to 40.00 to	40 to 44
Concrete Workers .. ..	60 6	44	87 0	44	27 0	49½	57 9	44	54 10	47	93 4	40	15.63	54	44.00 to 40.00 to	40 to 44
Earth Excavators .. ..	60 6	44	87 0	44	27 0	49½	57 9	44	54 10	47	93 4	40	5.63	54	20.00	50

(a) Kilnmen,

SECTION VII.—*continued.*WEEKLY RATES OF WAGE AND HOURS OF LABOUR: AUSTRALIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	AUSTRALIA (SYDNEY).				GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (LONDON).				NEW ZEALAND (AUCKLAND).				CANADA (MONTREAL).			
	July, 1914.		31st Dec., 1938.		August, 1914.		31st Dec., 1938.		March, 1914.		31st Dec., 1938.		Sept., 1914.		1st Oct., 1938.	
	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.
<b>Building—<i>contd.</i></b>	<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>		\$		\$	
Painters .. .. .	64 0	48	114 4	44	36 3	49½	73 4	44	60 6	44	110 0	40	21.00	54	29.04	44
Paperhangers .. .. .	64 0	48	114 4	44	36 3	49½	77 0	44	60 6	44	110 0	40	21.00	54	29.04	44
Plasterers .. .. .	78 0	48	121 0	44	40 0	49½	77 0	44	66 0	44	115 0	40	25.65	48	35.20	44
Plumbers .. .. .	72 0	48	125 0	44	39 8	49½	77 0	44	62 4 to 66 0	44	110 0	40	22.31	54	30.00 to 33.00	40 to 44
<b>Tramways—</b>																
Conductors—																
1st year .. .. .	48 0	48	87 0	} 44	27 5	(a)	73 0	} 48	{ 42 0 to 48 0	{ 95 10 and 100 0	{ 40	12.84	60	27.00	54	
2nd year .. .. .	51 0	48	90 0				to					12.84	60	29.70	54	
3rd year .. .. .	54 0	48	93 0				82 0					13.41	60	32.40	54	
<b>Motormen—</b>																
1st year .. .. .	54 0	48	99 0	} 44	30 11	(a)	73 0	} 48	{ 48 0 to 54 0	{ 100 0 and 103 4	{ 40	12.84	60	27.00	54	
2nd year .. .. .	57 0	48	99 0				to					12.84	60	29.70	54	
3rd year .. .. .	60 0	48	99 0				82 0					13.41	60	32.40	54	
<b>Carrying (Merchandise)—</b>																
Carters (1 horse) .. .. .	50 0	56½	92 0	44	25 7	(a)	60 0 and 61 0 to 64 6	48	48 0	48	93 0	44	20.41	54	15.00 to 18.00	60
<b>Municipal—Labourers</b> .. .. .	57 0	48	94 6	44	26 9	(a)	58 8 to 64 6	47	50 11 to 58 9	47	90 0	40	11.83	54	16.80 to 19.20	48

(a) Not available.

## Section VIII.

## COMPARATIVE INDEX-NUMBERS FOR THE SIX CAPITAL CITIES COMBINED.

(\* Base of Each Section: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1911 = 1,000.)

Period.	Food and Groceries.	Rent. (4 and 5 Rooms).	Food, Groceries and Rent (4 and 5 Rooms).	All Items of Household Expenditure.	Wholesale Prices, Melbourne.	Nominal Wages Adult Males.	Real Wages. (a)	Percentage of Unemployment among Trade Unionists.
Year—								
1911 .. ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	b 1,000	1,000	1,000	b 1,000	4.7
1914 .. ..	1,144	1,082	1,121	1,140	1,149	1,081	948	8.3
1921 .. ..	1,902	1,410	1,717	1,680	1,903	1,826	1,087	11.2
1931 .. ..	1,477	1,473	1,475	1,448	1,428	1,752	1,210	27.4
1933 .. ..	1,342	1,314	1,332	1,335	1,409	1,584	1,187	25.1
1934 .. ..	1,400	1,324	1,371	1,355	1,471	1,590	1,173	20.5
1935 .. ..	1,442	1,372	1,416	1,380	1,409	1,609	1,166	16.5
1936 .. ..	1,475	1,437	1,461	1,409	1,543	1,635	1,160	12.2
1937 .. ..	1,521	1,488	1,510	1,448	1,656	1,704	1,177	9.3
1938 .. ..	1,584	1,540	1,568	1,488	1,662	1,796	1,207	8.7
Quarter—								
1928.								
March .. ..	1,771	1,744	1,761	1,675	1,840	1,966	1,174	10.7
June .. ..	1,784	1,745	1,769	1,684	1,820	1,963	1,166	11.2
September ..	1,745	1,741	1,744	1,670	1,764	1,963	1,175	11.4
December ..	1,746	1,742	1,744	1,670	1,744	1,959	1,173	9.9
1929.								
March .. ..	1,859	1,758	1,821	1,713	1,788	1,958	1,143	9.3
June .. ..	1,865	1,753	1,823	1,713	1,794	1,977	1,154	10.0
September ..	1,867	1,754	1,824	1,713	1,834	1,979	1,155	12.1
December ..	1,873	1,751	1,827	1,712	1,799	1,974	1,153	13.1
1930.								
March .. ..	1,751	1,782	1,763	1,670	1,680	1,973	1,181	14.6
June .. ..	1,734	1,744	1,738	1,653	1,667	1,956	1,183	18.5
September ..	1,673	1,692	1,680	1,607	1,599	1,939	1,207	20.5
December ..	1,568	1,625	1,590	1,542	1,438	1,887	1,224	23.4
1931.								
March .. ..	1,538	1,560	1,546	1,500	1,453	1,814	1,209	25.8
June .. ..	1,496	1,501	1,498	1,464	1,437	1,764	1,205	27.6
September ..	1,435	1,447	1,439	1,423	1,406	1,735	1,219	28.3
December ..	1,439	1,382	1,418	1,406	1,418	1,694	1,205	28.0
1932.								
March .. ..	1,465	1,358	1,425	1,403	1,434	1,680	1,197	28.3
June .. ..	1,448	1,345	1,409	1,389	1,410	1,672	1,204	30.0
September ..	1,416	1,327	1,382	1,370	1,418	1,608	1,174	29.6
December ..	1,369	1,314	1,348	1,346	1,384	1,597	1,186	28.1
1933.								
March .. ..	1,317	1,318	1,318	1,327	1,336	1,585	1,194	26.5
June .. ..	1,337	1,314	1,329	1,334	1,401	1,595	1,196	25.7
September ..	1,359	1,311	1,341	1,340	1,467	1,587	1,184	25.1
December ..	1,355	1,311	1,339	1,337	1,432	1,570	1,174	23.0
1934.								
March .. ..	1,371	1,315	1,350	1,344	1,456	1,572	1,170	21.9
June .. ..	1,404	1,319	1,372	1,358	1,463	1,592	1,172	20.9
September ..	1,401	1,331	1,375	1,357	1,492	1,596	1,176	20.4
December ..	1,422	1,332	1,388	1,361	1,474	1,599	1,175	18.8
1935.								
March .. ..	1,420	1,356	1,396	1,368	1,451	1,604	1,173	18.6
June .. ..	1,425	1,363	1,402	1,371	1,456	1,605	1,171	17.8
September ..	1,461	1,379	1,430	1,389	1,491	1,609	1,158	15.9
December ..	1,460	1,390	1,434	1,391	1,479	1,617	1,162	13.7
1936.								
March .. ..	1,445	1,413	1,433	1,391	1,475	1,620	1,165	13.4
June .. ..	1,455	1,425	1,444	1,397	1,520	1,625	1,163	12.8
September ..	1,489	1,449	1,474	1,420	1,570	1,637	1,153	12.0
December ..	1,510	1,461	1,491	1,430	1,607	1,656	1,158	10.7
1937.								
March .. ..	1,510	1,470	1,495	1,433	1,638	1,659	1,158	9.9
June .. ..	1,507	1,483	1,498	1,441	1,660	1,677	1,164	9.7
September ..	1,526	1,499	1,516	1,454	1,710	1,718	1,182	9.3
December ..	1,540	1,510	1,529	1,465	1,617	1,760	1,201	8.2
1938.								
March .. ..	1,540	1,521	1,534	1,467	1,600	1,775	1,210	8.0
June .. ..	1,572	1,534	1,558	1,482	1,642	1,784	1,204	8.6
September ..	1,616	1,547	1,589	1,500	1,706	1,803	1,202	9.2
December ..	1,608	1,559	1,589	1,501	1,701	1,820	1,213	8.9
1939.								
March .. ..	1,673	1,568	1,631	1,524	1,723	1,821	1,195	9.8
June .. ..	1,654	1,575	1,623	1,522	1,639	1,842	1,210	9.7

(a) Calculated under the "C" Series regimen. See p. 36 for explanation.

(b) Taken back from true base (November, 1914) by means of the Food and Rent of All Houses ("A" Series) Index.

\*The index-numbers given in the separate columns of the table cannot be compared with each other in order to show, for example, the relative cost of housing, and food and groceries, since the cost in 1911 in each group or combination is made equal to 1,000.

# COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE SIX CAPITAL ITEMS COMMITTEE

The following table shows the results of the committee's work during the period from January 1, 1961, to December 31, 1961. The table is divided into two main sections: "Total" and "By Item". The "Total" section shows the overall results, while the "By Item" section shows the results for each of the six capital items.

Item	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554	1553	1552	1551	1550	1549	1548	1547	1546	1545	1544	1543	1542	1541	1540	1539	1538	1537	1536	1535	1534	1533	1532	1531	1530	1529	1528	1527	1526	1525	1524	1523	1522	1521	1520	1519	1518	1517	1516	1515	1514	1513	1512	1511	1510	1509	1508	1507	1506	1505	1504	1503	1502	1501	1500	1499	1498	1497	1496	1495	1494	1493	1492	1491	1490	1489	1488	1487	1486	1485	1484	1483	1482	1481	1480	1479	1478	1477	1476	1475	1474	1473	1472	1471	1470	1469	1468	1467	1466	1465	1464	1463	1462	1461	1460	1459	1458	1457	1456	1455	1454	1453	1452	1451	1450	1449	1448	1447	1446	1445	1444	1443	1442	1441	1440	1439	1438	1437	1436	1435	1434	1433	1432	1431	1430	1429	1428	1427	1426	1425	1424	1423	1422	1421	1420	1419	1418	1417	1416	1415	1414	1413	1412	1411	1410	1409	1408	1407	1406	1405	1404	1403	1402	1401	1400	1399	1398	1397	1396	1395	1394	1393	1392	1391	1390	1389	1388	1387	1386	1385	1384	1383	1382	1381	1380	1379	1378	1377	1376	1375	1374	1373	1372	1371	1370	1369	1368	1367	1366	1365	1364	1363	1362	1361	1360	1359	1358	1357	1356	1355	1354	1353	1352	1351	1350	1349	1348	1347	1346	1345	1344	1343	1342	1341	1340	1339	1338	1337	1336	1335	1334	1333	1332	1331	1330	1329	1328	1327	1326	1325	1324	1323	1322	1321	1320	1319	1318	1317	1316	1315	1314	1313	1312	1311	1310	1309	1308	1307	1306	1305	1304	1303	1302	1301	1300	1299	1298	1297	1296	1295	1294	1293	1292	1291	1290	1289	1288	1287	1286	1285	1284	1283	1282	1281	1280	1279	1278	1277	1276	1275	1274	1273	1272	1271	1270	1269	1268	1267	1266	1265	1264	1263	1262	1261	1260	1259	1258	1257	1256	1255	1254	1253	1252	1251	1250	1249	1248	1247	1246	1245	1244	1243	1242	1241	1240	1239	1238	1237	1236	1235	1234	1233	1232	1231	1230	1229	1228	1227	1226	1225	1224	1223	1222	1221	1220	1219	1218	1217	1216	1215	1214	1213	1212	1211	1210	1209	1208	1207	1206	1205	1204	1203	1202	1201	1200	1199	1198	1197	1196	1195	1194	1193	1192	1191	1190	1189	1188	1187	1186	1185	1184	1183	1182	1181	1180	1179	1178	1177	1176	1175	1174	1173	1172	1171	1170	1169	1168	1167	1166	1165	1164	1163	1162	1161	1160	1159	1158	1157	1156	1155	1154	1153	1152	1151	1150	1149	1148	1147	1146	1145	1144	1143	1142	1141	1140	1139	1138	1137	1136	1135	1134	1133	1132	1131	1130	1129	1128	1127	1126	1125	1124	1123	1122	1121	1120	1119	1118	1117	1116	1115	1114	1113	1112	1111	1110	1109	1108	1107	1106	1105	1104	1103	1102	1101	1100	1099	1098	1097	1096	1095	1094	1093	1092	1091	1090	1089	1088	1087	1086	1085	1084	1083	1082	1081	1080	1079	1078	1077	1076	1075	1074	1073	1072	1071	1070	1069	1068	1067	1066	1065	1064	1063	1062	1061	1060	1059	1058	1057	1056	1055	1054	1053	1052	1051	1050	1049	1048	1047	1046	1045	1044	1043	1042	1041	1040	1039	1038	1037	1036	1035	1034	1033	1032	1031	1030	1029	1028	1027	1026	1025	1024	1023	1022	1021	1020	1019	1018	1017	1016	1015	1014	1013	1012	1011	1010	1009	1008	1007	1006	1005	1004	1003	1002	1001	1000	999	998	997	996	995	994	993	992	991	990	989	988	987	986	985	984	983	982	981	980	979	978	977	976	975	974	973	972	971	970	969	968	967	966	965	964	963	962	961	960	959	958	957	956	955	954	9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